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Nemeth Says Ryzhkov Agrees on Troop Withdrawal

LD1301120290 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1130 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Hungary and the Soviet Union believe that there is no need, from any standpoint, for the presence of Soviet troops in Hungary. Thus, they have agreed that the units in question will be withdrawn as soon as possible. Miklos Nemeth gave the news to two Japanese papers after his talks in Sofia with Nikolay Ryzhkov.

Speaking about CEMA, he said that transforming the organization will take a long time. At the same time, he indicated that Hungary wishes to create a separate group within CEMA with Czechoslovakia and Poland, which are at the same level of development.

CSSR Commentary on Soviet Troop Withdrawal

LD1401225990 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Milika Sundic commentary]

[Text] Soviet-Czechoslovak negotiations begin tomorrow [15 January] in Prague on the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Czechoslovakia. Does this mean that the Warsaw Pact is on the brink of disintegration? Milika Sundic comments further on this:

Negotiations between Prague and Moscow on the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Czechoslovakia represent the beginning of the end of the Soviet military presence in four countries that are members of the Warsaw Pact. This in fact is a matter related to the process that has been inevitable given the conditions of the destruction of existing regimes in Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary and the GDR, and the changes which have above all taken hold in the USSR through perestroyka and glasnost. The latter has been decisive for everything that has happened and is happening in East Europe, and which has had a decisive impact on changing the state of relations in one of the most monolithic military alliances that the world has ever known.

The negotiations in Prague should not be difficult because, as things stand right now, the USSR will respect the wish of the Czechoslovak Government to withdraw its forces within a reasonable period. This will probably also happen when such negotiations begin with Hungary and probably also with Poland, depending on the stances which the governments in Bucharest [as heard] and Warsaw will adopt in connection with this. For the time being the only thing which is uncertain is when and whether this question will be raised by the GDR Government, which is, at the same time, the most delicate problem of the Soviet military presence in East Europe—all the more so since there is for the moment no question of any kind of withdrawal of U.S., UK, and French troops from the FRG, something which, assuming the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the GDR at any time now, should be the basic precondition for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from both parts of a still divided Europe.

True, the problems which Mikhail Gorbachev is encountering in his relations with the member countries of the already frayed Warsaw Pact are far more complex than the problems within the Western military alliance. However, this was the price paid for an erroneous policy and for, we should say, an artificial alliance between the USSR as the most significant factor in the victory over fascism and the countries on which the Stalinist system of rule was literally foisted and which, as a result of a deal between the Allies at the end of World War II, were incorporated into the Soviet zone of influence as satellites, although no significant revolutionary roots were present in these countries. This has all come to an end. The result is that the time has come to lay down absolutely fresh bases of cooperation, not only in the ideological and political spheres, but also in the military and economic field between the Warsaw Pact member countries and Comecon members. There can no longer be any question about cooperation along the party line, because all the Communist Parties in East European countries are facing disintegration or have already disintegrated, as, for instance, in Romania.

In any case, initial statements by some East European governments made at the time of major changes that they will remain faithful to the alliance with the USSR are no longer binding on anyone, and it can be said with what amounts almost to certainty that the USSR is not counting on these promises either. In the final analysis, Mikhail Gorbachev has more pressing business to deal with because, in his own house, he is facing major changes of a kind which the USSR has not experienced in its 71-year history.

So, although no Warsaw Pact member country where Soviet units are stationed is likely to insist on the Soviet troop withdrawal happening overnight, the view we stated at the beginning is quite certain: The time is imminent when there will not be any Soviet troops in any of the socialist countries. If the West wants to help Mikhail Gorbachev, it should not take advantage of this in any way whatsoever.

Prague Soviet Troop Withdrawal Talks Open 15 Jan

LD1501142790 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1400 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Czechoslovak-Soviet talks on the withdrawal of Soviet military forces from Czechoslovakia opened in Cernin Palace in Prague today. The delegations are led by Evgen Vacek and Ivan Aboymov, deputy foreign ministers of the two countries.

Further Reportage on Sofia CEMA Session

Mazowiecki Speech

AU1201191590 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 10 Jan 90 p 7

[Report on speech by Polish Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki at the 45th CEMA Session in Sofia on 9 January]

[Text] Mr Chairman!

Ladies and gentlemen !

I would like to begin by cordially thanking Premier Atanasov for inviting us to Sofia, the beautiful capital of your country, for the 45th CEMA session, as well as for the friendly reception and the provision of appropriate conditions for our stay and work. We believe that our meeting will serve the development of friendship and advantageous cooperation between our countries well.

We are currently witnessing enormous changes in Europe and the world. Turbulent changes are taking place in the European countries that belong to the CEMA.

Historic transformations and the irreversible end of the period of totalitarian rule are taking place before our very eyes. We are creating the framework for a new democratic system which takes into account society's needs and aspirations.

In the international arena there is a growing trend toward moving from confrontation to dialogue and cooperation between states with different institutional systems and toward international cooperation that covers various areas of social life, especially the economic and technological fields.

Our countries should make an increasingly greater contribution to European and world cooperation by using existing institutional mechanisms and creating new ones.

For these reasons, we believe that there is an urgent need to implement radical changes in the CEMA.

The resolutions adopted at the 43d and 44th CEMA sessions have proved to be ineffective thus far. In our opinion, this stems from, among other things, the continued existence of an ineffective centralized mechanism for mutual cooperation—especially with regard to trade—in economic relations between CEMA countries. We have to seek to overcome this state of affairs, said Premier T. Mazowiecki.

The political and economic changes that we have instituted in Poland do not harm the interests of our partners. We affirm the continued validity of earlier commitments. Our reforms, which are being implemented consistently and peacefully, have not only stabilized our internal situation but are also an element that serves to remove uncertainty in relations with other countries.

Being interested in the expansion and improvement of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between CEMA countries, we are working to win authentic, extensive public support for it in our country. This is a prerequisite for fundamentally reorganizing mutual cooperation, but also for fostering a genuinely committed attitude toward direct, advantageous cooperation with CEMA partners among economic activists and work forces.

That is why we are in favor of a genuine reorganization of the principles governing coordinated economic ventures, and not just statements to that effect.

We should strive to limit central agreements and, at the same time, to increase the role of enterprises in establishing mutual production, scientific, and commercial ties. We believe that during the initial phase, to last until 1995, governments should guarantee the realization of centrally concluded agreements in order to ensure stable supplies of raw materials and fuels. Enterprises themselves should conclude agreements concerning other areas of trade, with enterprises assuming legal and civil responsibility.

Ladies and gentlemen, as I already mentioned, Poland, like the other countries in central and East Europe, is on the threshold of great changes, changes that are occurring throughout Europe, but especially in this region in which we live.

Poland's socioeconomic system is undergoing a profound transformation which is geared toward basing the system on market principles and envisages far-reaching changes in ownership and the opening up of our economy toward the rest of the world.

We want to do this quickly with the help of radical action in order to make the transitional period, which will impose a burden on society, as brief as possible. We believe that only a bold change in direction will enable us to extricate ourselves from the decline and to build an order that meets social expectations.

To achieve this and to create stable conditions for growth, we are mobilizing our energies as well as external factors.

That is why we continue to actively support the urgent creation of a new model of economic cooperation between our countries, a system that is based on market criteria of economic efficiency and the recognition of the independent enterprise as the main element in bilateral and multilateral cooperation between our countries.

This will make it possible to assess the tangible benefits of cooperation and will provide an important stimulus for its development. This is the main reason why we support cooperation that is based on the principles that are put into effect in the world as a whole, that is, on effective, proven market solutions, said T. Mazowiecki.

The profound changes in our countries' socioeconomic systems, the entirely new situation that has now emerged, mean that fundamental changes in the mechanisms of cooperation between CEMA countries are now imperative. At the same time, I know that work on this reorganization has been in progress at various levels for more than 2 years. There were disagreements within various bodies and there has been a lack of progress, although CEMA sessions adopted the appropriate decisions. Reorganization was hampered by a lack of consolidation in our economies and by the conflicting interests of member countries to an equal degree.

We propose that without waiting for the establishment of full-blown market money-commodity relations and for the full consolidation of markets in individual countries, we should start to institute fundamental changes in the mechanisms and principles of multilateral cooperation and join the world trend in scientific and technological progress as quickly as possible.

We believe that our cooperation should concentrate on two basic issues.

First, it should concentrate on the effects of the introduction in our countries—to a lesser or greater degree—of market economies, as well as on the question of cooperation between our countries that is based on proven principles employed in international relations.

Second, it should concentrate on the problem of effectively joining in the processes that are taking place in the world economy and in European economic integration.

We believe that basing cooperation between CEMA countries on the laws of the market should determine the direction of change. However, it has to be stated clearly that a certain transitional period will be required. During this period the effects and costs of transferring to market mechanisms—the burden that this will impose on individual CEMA member countries will vary—should be distributed in a manner that will be agreed upon.

We propose that the session establish a special working group that will produce, as quickly as possible, a set of proposals for transferring to market cooperation mechanisms in economic relations between CEMA countries.

The group should also formulate proposals concerning appropriate changes to the CEMA statute and the way in which CEMA operates. This is because CEMA's adjustment to new tasks will require an appropriate reorganization that will, among other things, include changes to the way in which decisions are made, the streamlining of council and secretariat agencies, and limiting activities to strategic tasks.

This will facilitate the opening up of CEMA countries to economic cooperation with the entire world economic system on principles of reciprocity.

We believe that the process of transforming CEMA will require a certain period of time, but we believe that it will be a short one.

It cannot hamper our current cooperation.

That is why, in light of current cooperation needs, we propose that the Executive Committee urgently verify the principles currently in force within the CEMA with a view to liberalizing them as quickly as possible and making their use optional.

It is important that they should not constitute obstacles to the application of various practical solutions in both a multilateral and bilateral context, and especially in view of growing enterprise independence and the role of enterprises in the process of mutual cooperation.

Poland is prepared to begin immediately to apply new solutions, even if only with those countries that express their readiness to do so.

The testing of these solutions, even within a group of a few countries, can become a kind of "economic laboratory" that will encourage other countries and accelerate the process of approaching world conditions for economic cooperation and trade, concluded the premier of the Republic of Poland.

Mazowiecki NEPSZABADSAG Interview

LD1201205490 Warsaw PAP in English 1655 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, Jan. 12—Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki gave an interview for the Hungarian NEPSZABADSAG daily during the debates of the CMEA session in Sofia and the newspaper printed it today.

CMEA members do not reject the possibility of cooperation between Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. The shaping of this cooperation can become the basis for the fundamental change of the CMEA. I hope that experts will swiftly develop practical and detailed solutions necessary to create this small integration, the premier said.

Answering a question about his opinion on the future of Solidarity, the premier remarked that today it was both a trade union and a social movement. As a social movement, it can develop and maintain unity at the same time. But I can imagine it turning into several parties. We think that unity is important but we do not want to make a great mass party out of the trade union, the premier said.

Hungary's Nemeth on CEMA

LD1301192490 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1500 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Interview with Premier Miklos Nemeth by Andras Domany; date and place not given; on the "168 Hours" program—recorded]

[Text] [Domany] It was not a usual CEMA session which took place in Sofia. There was relative agreement—perhaps only Cuba strongly opposed it—that CEMA should be entirely organized anew, on a market basis. However, there are a good number of countries within which there is no real market, whose enterprises are not really enterprises even now; stormy political changes have occurred in vain there.

[Nemeth] That is so. We feel that by no means is it correct to endeavor to replace a CEMA of a monolithic structure with another type of monolithic CEMA. It is expedient to try out in practice several types of models and experiments. If some countries are further ahead in building a market, generally in accepting and exercising market principles and practice, they should try out one kind of model, in parallel with the policy and practice of opening up to the world economy. Others, where such endeavors and practice are not yet so vigorous, such as, let us say Hungary, Poland, and I trust that it will be the same in Czechoslovakia, should try out another type of practice and method. The essence is that all types of solutions should be possible.

Therefore, let us say that if this more market-based group of countries takes an upswing, and if—as I believe—it proves that this is the sole feasible path in renewing and reforming integration, then this group should be open to admitting others who accept these principles and practice.

[Domany] What did the Poles and Czechoslovaks say to this? I heard with some surprise that there was not much discussion with them before the proposal by Peter Medgyessy was made public.

[Nemeth] That is true. There was no preliminary coordination. Nonetheless, at my bilateral meetings with Premiers Calfa and Mazowiecki, both of them judged the Hungarian proposal to be very sympathetic and worthy of concrete elaboration. We even agreed that in the near future, our experts will meet to work out the detailed proposals.

[Domany] There was a very important matter: accounting in convertible currency. I believe that it is not entirely clear to a considerable number of people what is at issue here. The Czechoslovaks said—and properly speaking I believe the Hungarian stand resembles this—that there is sense in this only if this, let's say dollar, is not merely a means of accounting, but if there is an elimination of quotas, that is of endeavors for rigid bilateral balancing, and if there really is free-currency trading. This is not exactly what is said by the Soviets. In the final analysis, what will get underway at the beginning of 1991?

[Nemeth] There really are large differences of view here, between even the Hungarian and the Soviet stands. We say instead of negotiations at a level of bureaucratic state administration or ministries, possibly even that of the government, negotiations should take place at the level of enterprises, the level of enterprises and entrepreneurs.

[Domany] So there should not be the hitherto, so-called plan coordination?

[Nemeth] Plan coordination must be replaced by a series of long-term economic policy consultations of a type which will try to create bridges between the differing mechanisms. Another thing which is very essential is that its framework should not be what it has been to date, thus inter-state agreements in which we have existed up to now; instead, the framework should be the contract, and the means—prices, customs duties, exchange rates. Thus, it should be everything which a market economy involves.

[Domany] Contracts between enterprises.

[Nemeth] That is so.

[Domany] Yet regarding this, it is said—and the Soviets are acting virtually in the defense of our interests, at least this is how one of the remarks at a news conference sounded—that this would be very bad for some socialist countries, because they suddenly would have losses in dollars, of this or that amount. It is said in our country too.

[Nemeth] Yes. Regarding this, I agreed with Premier Ryzhkov. A solution and mechanism must be worked out and accepted by us, which does not put any country lastingly in either a loss-making or profit-gaining position.

[Domany] How is this possible...

[Nemeth, interrupting] For example, with credits. It is expedient to consider this in gradual terms, at the time of transition. In truth, let us say, in our calculations a transition all at once...

[Domany, interrupting] One billion dollars?

[Nemeth continuing]...would cause losses to the tune of 1 and ½ billion dollars. There is another solution, as well. For example, in given cases our transferable ruble surplus could be used, at a satisfactory exchange rate—and I would underline this twice—in order to offset these losses. These are matters of detail which we will still be debating very seriously.

[Domany] So this will take place in the coming months.

[Nemeth] Yes, this is the very important task of the coming months. So, our changing over to accounting in, let us say, dollars, or in any convertible currency, does not mean necessarily that there will be a market, that there will be a new mechanism.

The essence here is that every country should be committed to building an internal market and to developing the system of means for this. This includes the USSR, too.

[Domany] Does there appear to be a willingness there to do this?

[Nemeth] Yes, there is a willingness. In practice...

[Domany, interrupting] [Words indistinct]

[Nemeth] ...in the matter of capabilities there are great divergences. I should not like to arouse illusions in anyone.

[Domany] To put it in straightforward terms, now several people went there believing that CEMA might fall apart in Sofia. This did not happen. I do not know whether I am playing the devil's advocate, but could this happen in Budapest in 6 months, if things do not come together after all?

[Nemeth] I do not preclude, in principle, that it might not be possible, in Budapest either, to link the reform to a set time, but insofar as this does not happen, this organization, as it is, would end up on the periphery. It would be forgotten in world politics and in the world economy.

[Domany] Another thing, you mentioned your bilateral talks. to my knowledge, you did not solely discuss economic issues with Soviet Premier Ryzhkov. You also discussed scheduling the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungary; not long ago the Natonal Assembly committee took a stand in this.

[Nemeth] To be sure, the National Assembly will deal with this matter at its next session. Well, I really discussed these matters with the Soviet premier. I proposed that we should appoint people who will discuss the details. On the Hungarian side, we appointed Laszlo Borsits, chief of General Staff, and Ferenc Somogyi, state secretary of foreign affairs, to head the negotiating delegation. Soviet Premier Ryzhkov promised that in the near future, before the session of parliament, he will tell me the names of those authorized by the Soviet Government.

[Domany] And does it appear conceivable that they really might support a full withdrawal of troops in the course of the year?

[Nemeth] There are neither political nor military reasons for Soviet troops to be stationed in Hungary. At the same time, the reality is that there exist the Warsaw Pact and NATO. Large numbers of U.S. troops are stationed in some West European countries. Twenty-three countries are discussing these issues at the Vienna talks on reducing armed forces and arms limitation. We Hungarians have an interest in the success of these talks, not just in the short-term but in the long-term too. Therefore, the bringing about of concordance with the Vienna talks and the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungary is not merely an artificial linkage in the issue.

Nemeth Comments

LD1401214190 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1800 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Report on interview with Hungarian Premier Miklos Nemeth by unidentified reporter in Sofia on 10 January; on "The Week" program]

[Text] CEMA has not collapsed. Once more it has given itself a year's grace and a certain amount of hope. At least, that is what would seem to emerge from the words of the Hungarian premier, which you are about to hear:

[Begin recording] [Reporter] CEMA's 45th session ended 1 minute ago. Premier Miklos Nemeth, what were your feelings as you rose from the table?

[Nemeth] I would not be honest if I did not say that part of me is optimistic, considering that after many years of hard debates, and after hard Hungarian proposals, this consultation has at long last stated that in fact the present mechanism and organization CEMA is unviable in the long term, and it can be proved that now it no longer helps the member states and does not serve the economic development, the exploitation of comparative advantages.

At the same time, I also have doubts. For it is well known from our history, both from CEMA's history and from Hungarian history too, that in this region there is a great deal of enthusiasm in the phase of the offer, and less in the phase of execution. I am confident, however, that by now such decisive issues are at stake, and every member state feels this so much, that, in the present mechanism and system, the crises, all of our crises, are spilling over into each other's countries, and if we do not change this radically within a short time, then this organization will simply fade into oblivion, and the whole integration will collapse.

[Reporter] Yes, but the need for change was already formulated back in 1984; it was formulated in 1986. Various documents were signed and then nothing happened.

[Nemeth] I tried to allude to this by pointing out that actually this time, beside the Hungarian and Polish Government proposals, a similar conception and a similar policy were formulated by a number of other countries, which is evidently connected with the changes that took place in the system of political institutions in central Eastern Europe in 1989.

[Reporter] In your experience, were the Hungarian proposals well received?

[Nemeth] Well, if I take the fact that after the Hungarian contribution, nearly every delegation head lauded the Hungarian policy, then I think that I may be satisfied. But the devil is in the details, as we know, and, to this extent, I too am plagued by doubts as to whether when the time comes to concrete work the delegations will be just as enthusiastic, as decisive. Perhaps it is fortunate, from this point of view, that Hungary is the current chairman of the Executive Committee. This enables us to approach this issue according to our own tempo and our own conceptions, at a somewhat faster rate, and to try and keep in hand the implementation, too, in a determined way. [end recording]

Czechoslovak Radio Correspondent Report

LD1101172490 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1100 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Interview with Vladimir Vercak, Czechoslovak radio special correspondent, by unidentified reporter at the CEMA session in Sofia—date not given]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Was this meeting a turning point or did it follow the old pattern?

[Vercak] It is correct to call it a turning point, even if this term does not specify why. In the opinion of those in the hall of the National Palace of Culture, on the first day everybody behaved in a very principled way. [passage omitted] But, as the days went by, individual delegations went back to their old ways.

[Reporter] Can you say more about this?

[Vercak] When the time came to change from words to deeds on the need for alterations, demands started to be made that every proposal for change be discussed by a commission, that the commission should have a subcommission, the subcommission should have its group of experts, and so on. Everything was treated as though there was plenty of time. Many of those present thought that our proposed time schedules were too brief. Deputy Federal Premier Vladimir Dlouhy told me on the airplane that, in this case, the attitude that he who wants to carry out quick changes is hasty, and he who wants to act slowly is sensible, is very dangerous for the further fate of CEMA and does not reflect the rate of changes in CEMA member countries.

[Reporter] Could you tell us briefly what changes were proposed by Czechoslovakia, and on what scale?

[Vercak] Our proposals embraced practically all sides of the CEMA operation. The most radical was that Czechoslovakia itself would prepare in 2 months the draft of the new status of CEMA and put it forward to the Executive Committee so that it could be adopted at the extraordinary session of the Council in April or May at the latest. Eventually we agreed to a compromise whereby the proposal will be prepared by an independent commission consisting of deputy premiers of individual countries. In March the usual way of proceeding will apply until the regular summer session in Budapest. We also suported, along with Hungary, the Soviet proposal to change to mutual trade payments in freely convertible currencies and a changeover to world prices with regard to raw materials. Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus said that this ought to be done gradually, stage by stage, in order not to make any country suffer for the fact that so far it has followed the current model. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Now we would like to see whether all the intentions agreed upon in Sofia will be implemented on time and correctly.

[Vercak] The first possibility to see this will be at the CEMA Currency and Financial Commission session to be held in Prague next week.

Romanian Deputy Minister on Reform

AU1301193690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1751 GMT 13 Jan 90

["The CMEA—a Genuinely Democratic Spirit"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 13/1/1990 —Romania believes a total reform inside the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, CMEA [CEMA], is needed so that it may reflect the reforms in its member countries, said Mr. Stefan Stancu, vice-chairman of the governmental commission of economic cooperation, deputy minister of foreign trade, in an interview with today's "ADEVARUL".

The CMEA member countries harbour interests in and the wish for the development of new-type relations, free from the old political, ideological and economic models, relations set on economic grounds, on market-type links, he said, referring to the recent session of that organization in Sofia.

In the light of the radical changes in the economies of the member countries a passage to market-type relations, descentralization, the wish to develop links more broadly these countries must firmly head for the all-European and the world economy. The CMEA should no longer be an interstate organization making decisions which are compulsory for the entire economic activity of companies and enterprises.

A new feature of the Romanian stance, according to Mr. Stancu, is the broader outlook on cooperation within the CMEA, in consideration of the need for that organization to never assert itself as a closed economic group, as an obstacle to the participation of Romania and of the other member countries in all-European cooperation.

An altogether new element in our stance, he said, is the fact that Romania, together with other countries, supports the demand to espouse existing practices in the world and the price level in the world market to a greater extent. In case there is a lack of understanding a gradual passage should be achieved to discounts in convertible currencies. We do not necessarily uphold the need for payments in convertible currencies, but we think exchanges should be measured in convertible currencies, as this is the only way to eliminate the distortion brought in by the use of the present exchange rates between the transferable rouble, national currencies and convertible currencies, which lack the necessary economic substantiation and disorient enterprises and companies in their foreign relations.

Prague RUDE PRAVO Commentary

*AU1201185790 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
11 Jan 90 p 2*

[Pavel Paral commentary: "The Future Is Still Uncertain"]

[Text] The sudden turnaround toward a market economy in the CEMA countries' economic policy has fully exposed the fact that the operating mechanism for this group had become a hindrance to cooperation.

The 45th CEMA session that has just ended in Sofia has entirely confirmed this. The future has come to the forefront of attention. CSSR Premier Marian Calfa said that the Czechoslovak economy is faced with accounting for losses caused by the artificial separation of our economy from the resources of modern technology and from the advantages of the world division of labor. That is, CEMA will only have significance for us when it contributes to eliminating this separation.

For a long time, the transition from multilateral cooperation to bilateral relations has resolved only immediate problems; however, giving up ideas of multilateral economic integration (although, at the beginning, not with all the council members) will mean delaying real partnership on an equal basis with the EC.

Considerable attention was aroused by the proposal for a speedy transition to mutual accounting in freely convertible currencies and actual world prices. If the market is to become the main regulator of trade in CEMA, this method of accounting is inevitable. However, to transfer to it immediately would create considerable problems for us. For example, the structure of trade with the USSR requires substantial changes; however, not only on our side. The sluggishness of our exporters to the USSR did not only encourage the unchanging nature of supplies, but also the ruble's unrealistic rate of exchange with the dollar. Exporting state-of-the-art goods sold in the West to the Soviet Union meant that for goods exported at a world price of $100 our manufacturer received Kcs620 converted into rubles. Moreover, the practice of import contingencies has the effect that member state markets are practically closed. Therefore, Marian Calfa said that the transfer to world prices and to accounting in freely convertible currencies in the present situation would create a unilateral systemic advantage discriminating against the Czechoslovak partner and that it is necessary to chronologically apportion such a step on the basis of mutual advantage (the USSR proposes a period of 3 years and the CSSR a period of 5 years).

Necessity of CEMA Examined

*AU1201194590 Warsaw GAZETA WYBORCZA in Polish
9 Jan 90 p 3*

[Janusz Jankowiak commentary: "Who Needs CEMA?"]

[Text] The question of CEMA's future has nothing to do with the date when trade transactions will be calculated in dollars (transfers to rubles do not exist in a market economy). It has nothing to do with the way in which trade is carried out (trade is carried out not by governments, but by enterprises). It has nothing to do with whether or not "socioeconomic development plans" will still be "coordinated" (there will be no such plans). Lastly, it has nothing to do with a new name for the organization, unless one considers "mutual assistance" to mean the way in which the countries of central and Eastern Europe—for it is these that we have in mind, and not Cuba, Mongolia, and Vietnam—can help each other in their rapprochement with the world.

Instead, the question of CEMA's future involves a problem that seems the most important one for all the countries of post-communist Europe: To proceed together, or to go it alone?

Going It Alone, In Other Words Dissolution

A path to the world full of shortcuts is attractive to some CEMA member countries that are joined to it by force. The best example is the GDR—"the secret 13th member of the EEC"—which is now faced with the chance of a confederation with the most powerful economy in Europe. Another example is Hungary, which is establishing a trade confederation with Austria, Italy, and Yugoslavia. Hungary is the only CEMA country to have revealed official figures which show that doing away with the fiction of trade with the USSR would turn its present billion-ruble trade surplus into a billion-ruble trade deficit. A third example, discussed with increasing energy in Poland and Czechoslovakia, though not received very enthusiastically in the West so far, is the idea of an economic confederation with EFTA (the European Free Trade Association. Its members include Austria, Sweden, and Norway. Trade in industrial commodities between these countries is free of customs duty and is not subject to quantity restrictions).

In all these plans, CEMA is an obstacle on the path leading to the West. Therefore, the obstacle should be removed.

How Much Would It Cost?

Trade rules by ironclad laws. Either something is profitable or it is not. Right now, we know that genuine trade between the CEMA countries is impossible within the framework of the long-term agreements between the countries, which dictate prices and quantities in advance. Therefore, abandoning these agreements seems the first essential step, and the establishment of real prices is the second.

What would be the result? Western experts reckon that for most of the CEMA countries, switching to convertible currency transactions and paying the world market price for Soviet raw materials would have the same effect as that of the oil crisis in the West in the 1970's.

One thing has to be made clear: This threshold will have to be crossed, regardless of CEMA's fortunes. Also, it will be necessary to bear the consequences of restricting one's own exports of machinery and equipment to the USSR (equipment which is below world standards).

However, there are additional circumstances which complicate the debate on CEMA's future. The fact is that, for the next few years, trade exchange between the countries of central and Eastern Europe will have to be continued at any rate. This is for two reasons. The first is purely technological: Entire branches of industry depend on long-standing supplies of machinery and equipment from the same sources.

The second reason is, quite paradoxically, connected with the institutional changes in the post-communist countries. THE ECONOMIST wrote: "It is almost certain that for the next few years, the CEMA countries will devalue their own currencies en masse. This will increase the cost of imports from all countries, except from those that have also devalued their currencies, in other words from other CEMA countries."

Together; In Other Words Reconstruction

CEMA possesses a disastrous ideological past. Ideology in trade is expensive. Rejecting this ideology is also expensive. Therefore, apart from "accountability," what would the "reconstruction" of CEMA involve?

It seems that there is only one way. It is necessary to define the purpose of this organization. This would require a clear declaration from each of its members: Will they together try to come closer to Europe by means of a—this time—genuine and voluntary economic integration of their fledgling market economies, or will they try to achieve this objective separately or by establishing regional confederations?

Only in the first case can one talk of a conscious "reconstruction." Otherwise, regardless of the new name, we will be merely faced with the dismantling of an artificial creation which, for some time now, has been encumbered by "technical considerations."

Belgrade BORBA Assessment

AU1601092590 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 12 Jan 90 p 8

[TANJUG report: "Settlement in Sound Money"]

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Jan—In its current and future business with CEMA, Yugoslavia will long for payments in sound, convertible money. Yugoslavia's current substantial surplus must, however, be viewed separately, as something that has happened before under different circumstances, and this problem will be dealt with in a special way.

These broad and flexible directives, which were today presented to journalists in Belgrade by Branimir Pajkovic, member of the Federal Executive Council, reflect the outcome of the CEMA session that ended in Sofia last night. The session showed that the member countries face a long path before settlements are made in convertible currency and market methods of conducting business are introduced.

Pajkovic, who represented Yugoslavia at this session in Sofia, said that the CEMA member countries were unanimous in their demands for changes—the introduction of new market mechanisms and the elimination of the commanding, supra-economic position of the state in business affairs. In other words, cooperation in the CEMA must be more economic rather than state-based.

The question of when this will happen could be answered sometime in the middle of this year. It is possible that the Council will meet again in 6 months.

It appears that Yugoslavia has to wait and see what will happen. Meanwhile, as Pajkovic said, the "aim will be to go for convertibility." This poses the question of whether Yugoslavia as a country has a clear, promptly worked out strategy toward the CEMA, or whether it will work out this strategy along the way.

Modrow Meets With Warsaw Pact's Lushev

LD1001221590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2112 GMT 10 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Today in Berlin, GDR Prime Minister Hans Modrow and Army General Petr Lushev, commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact, discussed military reforms in the GDR and the GDR's contribution as a Warsaw Pact member.

They must together ensure peace and stability in the heart of Europe, based on the principle of adequate defense and equal security for all states, the partners in the talk said. It was in this spirit that the National People's Army, too, had to fulfill its duty as an alliance in accordance with the task laid down in the Constitution for protecting the lives of peaceful citizens from external attack. Modrow also passed on information about the CEMA meeting, which ended today.

Polish Paper Views Noriega Transfer to U.S.

AU0801125690 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 5 Jan 90 p 1

[Report by Aleksander Perczynski, RZECZPOSPOLITA's Washington correspondent: "President Bush's Success"]

[Text] First, the main television networks interrupted their evening programs in order to broadcast special news bulletins, which reported that two military helicopters, which had previously landed in the dusk near the papal nunciature in Panama City, had taken off in the direction of the U.S. military base.

They also said that President Bush had asked the television stations for several minutes of airtime, which of course were granted right away. Later, the programs were again interrupted and the viewer was taken to the White House press office.

President Bush read a brief statement. He announced officially that General Manuel Noriega had left the papal nunciature in Panama City and had surrendered to the U.S. forces which, with the Panamanian Government's full knowledge, arrested him and were taking him (at the time of the President's announcement) to Florida. He would face a jury and be charged with drug trafficking. George Bush said that in this way, all the objectives of "Operation Just Cause," in other words the invasion of Panama on 20 December, had been achieved.

The President thanked the Vatican and its nuncio in Panama for their responsible assistance in the final days, and assured them that the United States would guarantee Noriega a fair trial.

At 1600 on Thursday, Gen Noriega was placed before a court in Miami. Thus, a trial began which may turn out to be one of the most difficult in the history of U.S. justice.

Both the prosecution and the defense claim to have a very strong position and suitable evidence. But before the proceedings open, many legal problems will have to be solved, beginning with the legality of the arrest by the United States of a Panamanian citizen on his own soil (compounded by the absence of any local authorities at the scene).

The U.S. Administration's chief argument is that the Panamanian authorities had officially said that local justice was still not functioning and that they could not guarantee Noriega's safety in Panama.

There is no doubt that Noriega's surrender to the Americans is an extremely favorable event for Bush, for it was obvious that regardless of the stages in which the objectives of the military operation were presented, the apprehension of the Panamanian general was the primary objective of the invasion forces. The U.S. attorney general said that the "damage" likely to be caused by Noriega's statements in court (Noriega was chief of Panamanian intelligence when Bush was head of the CIA) had been investigated, with the conclusion that there was nothing Noriega could say that would implicate the President during his trial.

However, the question whether the general's lawyers will be able to use his long years of cooperation with the CIA in his defense (only those matters that are directly connected with the charges can be raised in court) is still open.

Noriega's arrest casts the question of the costs (material and human) of "Operation Just Cause" and its less than complete success into the sidelines. In effect, this operation is still ongoing, so it was not just a brief punitive expedition. The withdrawal of the U.S. soldiers who landed in Panama during the invasion has already begun, but a part of the extra contingent (not counting the 12,000 soldiers permanently stationed in the canal zone) will have to remain in Panama for at least a couple of more months.

In addition, President Endara's government (recognized by a dozen countries so far) still has the situation under control. In this respect, Noriega's departure may cause a significant improvement.

Whichever way the situation develops, the United States has Noriega, and President Bush has reason to be satisfied.

SFRY Commentary on U.S. Action in Panama

AU0701165990 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0900 GMT 7 Jan 90

[Slobodan Kovacevic commentary from the "Sunday at 10" program]

[Text] The outcome of the case involving Panamanian General Manuel Noriega was overshadowed by incomparably more important events on the world political scene. The interesting story, which includes military intervention, a spectacular escape, asylum, surrender to U.S. authorities, and finally a prison in Miami, went somehow, perhaps unjustifiably, unnoticed by the world public although, judging by its nature and the course of events, it deserved to be in the focus of attention. Here is a commentary by Slobodan Kovacevic:

It is now clear that U.S. President George Bush and the Washington administration can be grateful for the dramatic events in Romania and the CSSR while the whole Noriega operation was carried out in the shadow of world public opinion which, mesmerized by the emergence of democracy in one part of the world, reacted mildly and confusedly to the flagrant violation of international law and crude intervention.

So it happened that the world, despite a few sharp notes, swallowed a classic military intervention by a superpower resulting in more than 300 people dead in order to make a Panamanian general face justice, not in his own country, but in the United States.

Everything reminded one of a film from a genre which has been very popular in the past few years. It is possible, and psychologists can establish this, that the scenes from Panama fell on the already bland senses of the majority of television viewers on our planet. If one adds to this the Christmas and New Year mood, then the explanation of why everything went so smoothly and without any major negative consequences for the United States' international reputation is clear.

The double role of the Vatican's diplomacy which, let us recall, started with an offer of asylum according to noble principles of diplomatic tradition but which ended with virtually putting Noriega in a fait accompli position is only a transitional, albeit educational, sequence of events. And, since we are using film terminology, let us suitably name the forthcoming trial: Noriega, Part Two.

Although President Bush has promised a just trial, it is clear that it will be affected by legal and political dilemmas. Noriega's lawyers have already worked out that they will only need 9 months to gather material for defense.

Therefore, if the military intervention in Panama and Noriega's surrender went smoothly and without attracting the attention of the sleepy public, the slow but capable justice in Miami now has the opportunity to slowly establish who violated the law, how, and when.

POLITIKA on Reports of Unrest

AU1201175290 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 11 Jan 90 p 4

[A. D. report: "Revolts in Albania"]

[Text] It is difficult for news to reach the world from the "country of the eagle." The people are as quiet as mice. Suffering has forced them into muteness because every third inhabitant of this country has passed through camps and prisons or have been questioned and worked on with the methods of the Sigurimi.

The news that somehow seeps out of the Albanian borders is usually incomplete but it is not inaccurate and attracts a lot of attention from the world public precisely because very little actually gets out about this country and the internal situation. However, the truth is irrevocable that basic human rights do not exist in Albania, and that the people wish to experience a democracy like other European countries and feel as if they are in civilized Europe.

The regime of Enver Hoxha which has remained unchanged in Albania even after his death, forced the isolation of this country through fear. According to some incomplete figures, 170 senior officers and members of the Central Committee and the Politburo of the Albanian Workers Party have been liquidated in this regime. People have been removed in the most brutal way from the very top who had in anyway caused trouble for the "great and irreproachable leader" and his successor Ramiz Alia.

Purges occurred in Albania at every turn of Enver's policy. When they broke with the Russians, all senior and other officers in the Albanian Army who had been trained in Russian schools or who were inclined toward Russia perished. After the break with China, officers and people who had constructed good relations with China were killed. The camps are full to overflowing. According to some estimates, there are around 100,000 people in camps in Albania.

What Happened After the Killing of Mehmet Shehu

However, 20 percent of prisoners and camp inhabitants were pardoned for Albania's last holiday on the 28 November last year. This involves people who are older than 60 years.

Some sources say that there have been several attempts to start uprisings in Albania, particularly in the last 5 years. They were all bloodily put down regardless of whether they were connected with one of the important sources of finance for the Albanian secret services or whether they were purely political revolts.

It is well known in the world how Mehmet Shehu, one of the leading people of Albania, was liquidated. Shehu was one of the chief commanders of the Albanian Army during the war, in fact the main person in the first Albanian partisan brigade. After the war, he held the departments of police and defense, and created a strong service composed of his war comrades. When Mehmet Shehu was liquidated, the chief persons were also removed from the Albanian police, so that Sigurimi—the service virtually leading the world in intelligence and police skills—was considerably weakened.

Two years after Mehmet Shehu's killing, Xhevdet Mustafa's group, composed of five or six men, attacked from America and was captured near Durres, in fact between Durres and Fira. For 3 or 4 days, the six men battled with police and military forces, and the operations were commanded by the minister of defense and the minister of police. The group was defeated, but according to some sources, between 80 and 100 Albanian soldiers and police were killed.

Another rebellion broke out in Albania shortly afterwards. This time it was purely domestic. It happened in the Spac camp, in the large pirite mine near Elbasan. The labor in this mine is done by prisoners from the camp. It is estimated that there are between 6,000 and 7,000. They include many former officers and other people whom the Albanian regime put out of the way. According to some information, the camp has three security "belts." The direct contact with the prisoners inside is maintained by Sigurimi, the second "belt" are militiamen in uniforms, and all this is protected by military units.

About 4 years ago, the prisoners organized a rebellion, disarmed Sigurimi and the militia, and then the Army and special units were engaged in qualling the rebellion. Some foreign sources estimate that between 1,000 and 1,500 prisoners were killed in that rebellion. They were all buried in the camp itself. Albanian courts sentenced 100 prisoners to death on that occasion.

Revolts in Shkoder

Three years ago, a group of people succeeded in disarming the military garrison in Shkoder, raiding the camp stores, and arming themselves. Calling on the people to a "life or death struggle for freedom" and to rise, they waged a battle. The Corps Command in Shkoder was not able to subdue them for a whole night, and before dawn they brought in special units with tanks. These units succeeded in pushing the rebels into a house, and then they destroyed the house with bombs, and eventually flattened it with tanks. At the end of last year, a group of young people called the people to demonstrations and distributed leaflets. The youths were captured and five of them were sentenced to death.

At the end of August last year, a group of people attempted to escape to Yugoslavia. They did not succeed. One of them died while trying to swim across a lake and the other two were arrested. They were immediately shot. Their bodies were then tied to crosses, put into ox carts, and pulled by draft animals through the streets of Shkoder so that the people could see "the traitors passing by."

Extraordinary Measures in Shkoder

According to some reports, extraordinary measures have recently been introduced in Shkoder. The police are even in the villages, and the movement of traffic and people is strictly controlled. Permits have again been introduced for Albanian citizens when they move from place to place. Security around the residences of Ramiz Alia and Nexhmija Hoxha has been quadrupled. The situation is full of the anticipation of freedom. In Shkoder in particular, people are anticipating that they will be freed of their yokes. Some sources say that the song: "Slobodan, Slobodan, liberate us Shkoder people" was sung in the last few days. The people were then forcefully taken away by Sigurimi people.

It remains to be seen how long the darkness in Albania will last. In any case, Spring must come to Albania too.

Government Tightens Security Along Border

AU1201150290 Paris AFP in English 1322 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Excerpt] Belgrade, Jan 12 (AFP)—Albania has tightened security along its borders with Yugoslavia and Greece and surveillance has been stepped up at camps housing the regime's estimated 40,000 prisoners, press reports said Friday.

POLITIKA EKSPRES, quoting "reliable sources" in Albania, said people living in border regions could no longer move from one place to another without an official permit.

On Thursday, the daily and its sister paper POLITIKA, said a state of emergency had been proclaimed in and around Skhoder in northern Albania in response to demonstrations there last month.

The Albanian leadership has denied incidents took place at Skhoder and on Thursday, a Yugoslav government spokesman, quoted by TANJUG news agency said the government had no information about any unrest in northern Albania. [passage omitted]

Number of Soldiers on Greek Border Doubled

NC1301205090 Paris AFP in English 2025 GMT 13 Jan 90

[by Jean-Pierre Altier]

[Text] Kakavi, Greece, Jan 13 (AFP)—Albania has doubled the number of soldiers on the Greek border, a Greek military source said Saturday amid reports of a state of emergency in Albania to stem protests against the hardline communist regime.

"There has been a notable increase in activity on the Albanian side," the sources said, although all seemed quiet Saturday at this border checkpoint, the only road crossing between Albania and Greece.

The official Yugoslav news agency TANJUG reported Friday that Albanian authorities, apparently fearing an eruption of Romanian-style protests, had proclaimed a state of emergency.

A Greek woman who returned from Albania via this border checkpoint on Saturday said she had sensed "some tension" among people in Tirana, the Albanian capital, and the northern town of Skhoder, where a Belgrade newspaper had reported emergency measures on Thursday. Other Yugoslav media had reported riots in Skhoder a month ago.

They "seem to expect something," said the Greek woman, who declined to be named.

Only a few cars crossed the checkpoint Saturday, but border guards said their number had not changed notably in the past few days.

"The border between the two countries has never been completely closed but we see much more activity now on the Albanian side," a Greek military source said.

"The number of Albanian soldiers has doubled over the past days and the military personnel is getting more nervous," the source added.

The Kakavi border post was opened by junior foreign ministry officials from the two countries on January 12, 1985, 14 years after the resumption of diplomatic relations.

No tensions or incidents were reported from Cafa San on the Yugoslav-Albanian border, an AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE reporter said.

Yugoslav customs officers said everything seemed calm inside Albania.

Foreign Media Cited on State of Emergency

AU1201205190 Pristina Domestic Service in Albanian 1800 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] In their attempt to hinder the unrest of the population against the Tirana regime, the Albanian authorities have applied strict control measures. TANJUG is informed that these measures can be defined as a state of emergency. As for the situation in Albania, the Albanian press itself still remains silent. ATA and Radio Tirana are also silent, so far.

However, there has been news from certain foreign sources [words indistinct] that a state of emergency has been imposed in Albania. Referring to reports from Athens, the BBC reports that a state of emergency has been imposed in Shkoder and Korce. The Italian press today reported that Albania is on the verge of a rebellion. Today's Brazilian press has devoted particular attention to that country, stressing that a state of emergency has been imposed. News about the troubled situation in Albania was again published this afternoon in Greek newspapers. One of the largest-circulation newspapers, ELEFTEROSTYPOS, states that an uprising similiar to that in Romania has started in Albania. This news in the Greek press has not been confirmed officially. However, the TANJUG correspondent reports from Athens that in diplomatic circles there are rumors that something really extraordinary is taking place in Albania.

ATA has transmitted a comment by the official organ, ZERI I POPULLIT, whose author states that no one may play with socialist Albania. The comment reflects the standpoint of Ramiz Alia, the state and party leader, that changes like those that have taken place in the countries of East Europe cannot take place in Albania. The commentator of the official Albanian organ blames [words indistinct] the Greek and Serbian patriarchates, the Belgrade press, and the pretender to the Albanian throne and son of Ahmet Zog, Leka The First.

In its propaganda attack on Greece, ZERI I POPULLIT remains loyal to the anti-Yugoslav position and [passage indistinct] while the so-called defenders of human rights in Albania are maintaining Kosovo in a state of emergency, applying a constitution imposed by tanks. This is not the first time that reactionary circles are building castles in the air in connection with Albania, says ZERI I POPULLIT, without explaining to the world [words indistinct] beginning with the concrete bunkers built since Enver Hoxha's time and [words indistinct].

TANJUG Reports 'Strict Control Measures'

LD1201185290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1634 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Belgrade, January 12 (TANJUG)—The Albanian authorities, in an effort to prevent unrests against the regime, have imposed extremely strict control measures in the country.

TANJUG today learned that the introduced measures can be termed a state of emergency.

The Albanian press has not been reporting anything about the situation in the country. The official Albanian news agency ATA has also kept silent, as has Tirana radio.

Reports which have arrived from foreign sources from various parts, however, confirm that a state of emergency has been imposed in Albania. According to the reports, the Albanian authorities are brutally dealing with the dissidents and the disobedient.

TANJUG's correspondent in Athens has reported that diplomatic circles in Athens today said that there have been indications that something truly out of the ordinary is happening in Albania.

'No Visible Signs' of State of Emergency

LD1301063790 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2238 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Bozaje, Yugoslavia, Jan 12 (TANJUG)—The rare travellers who came from Albania to Yugoslavia via the Bozaje border crossing today say that there are no visible signs of a state of emergency in that country.

It has only been noted that there are more frequent controls of vehicles on the road from Shkoder to the Yugoslav border, as well as more detailed baggage and document checks at the crossing. This, however, cannot be interpreted as a sign that the authorities have introduced extra security measures in that part of Albania. The border crossing itself was open and there were no indications that it would be closed earlier than usual, i.e. before 10:00 p.m.

There was nothing unusual in the evening news program on Albanian television, broadcast at 8 p.m. This is not surprising in view of the fact that the media in Albania is under direct control of the official policy. The evening news mainly consisted of footage of last year's economic achievements and today's protocol activities of Albanian leader Ramiz Alia.

TANJUG has not received confirmation from other sources in Albania that something out of the ordinary is happening there.

Foto Cami Interviewed on 'Anti-Albanian Campaign'

AU1201202390 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Report on interview with Foto Cami, Albanian Workers Party Central Committee secretary and chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the People's Assembly—date and place not given]

[Text] This evening our television editor invited to one of our studios Comrade Foto Cami, Albanian Workers Party Central Committee secretary and chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the People's Assembly, to talk with him about the meaning and intention of the anti-Albanian campaign recently mounted by the information media of some countries. We are broadcasting a recording of this discussion:

[Begin recording] [Announcer] Comrade Foto, how do you assess the information broadcast yesterday and today by official Italian television that the east wind has began to blow in Albania and that demonstrations are taking place in Shkoder and elsewhere?

[Cami] [Words indistinct]. I cannot find other words. Anti-Albanian inventions have increased recently. In fact, everyone is trying to outdo the other. Belgrade radio-television and TANJUG say that demonstrations have taken place in Shkoder. Vatican Radio goes even further, saying that a rebellion has taken place. However [word indistinct] reactionary Greek clerics are saying that four young members of the Greek minority have allegedly been killed at the border, having been dragged by tractors.

A western news agency says that several people have been hanged in the middle of Tirana, Shkoder, Vlore, and elsewhere, and have been left on public view for a week. Well, as you see, a competition in concoctions. We do not have only sports competitions, don't you agree?

[Announcer] Comrade Foto, why has this campaign been mounted, and who is interested in it?

[Cami] The intention is clear. They would like to see what happened in the countries of the East also happen in Albania. In other words, they would like a return of Balli Kombetar [noncommunist wartime resistance movement], of the beys and agas [large and small landlords]; they would like to see a return of oppression and exploitation. This is the democracy that they would like to establish in Albania.

You asked in whose interest all this is. It is obvious: in the interest of all those who do not wish Albania to be free, independent, and sovereign.

The major role in this campaign of slanders against Albania has been assumed by TANJUG and the Serbian press in Belgrade. The reason is also obvious: they want to divert the world's attention from the oppression of Kosovo, from the trials and growing discrimination, and from the crises and conflicts that have arisen in Yugoslavia. They want to [word indistinct] Albania in order to justify their increased pressure and violence against the Albanians in Yugoslavia.

We are, therefore, not surprised that the most fantastic news is being concocted in Belgrade. At the same time, and this is regrettable, Italian radio-television, which is supposed to be a serious institution, has sunk to the level of becoming a propagandist of such fabrications.

Part of the Greek press is also engaged in this anti-Albanian campaign. They are allegedly concerned about the condition of the Greek minority in Albania. This is truly regrettable, because a sound spirit of friendship exists between our two countries. Normal and friendly relations between countries also serve the national minorities. Their artificial exacerbation serves no one.

[Announcer] Naturally, these slanders against Albania do not require a denial, is it not so? However, they have aroused the anger and indignation of the people.

[Cami] Exactly. However, there is also a positive side to it. They stimulate us to raise our vigilance, to defend the country's freedom, independence, and sovereignty, to increase our mobilization to work even more for the good of the country and socialism, and to strengthen and steel our unbreakable unity and our determination to progress on the road that we have chosen ourselves.

[Announcer] Comrade Foto, thank you. [end recording]

Alia Denies State of Emergency Reports

AU1501174690 Paris AFP in English 1721 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Excerpts] Belgrade, Jan 15 (AFP)—Albanian leader Ramiz Alia on Monday denied Yugoslav reports that a state of emergency had been imposed in his country, according to the official Albanian news agency ATA monitored here.

Mr. Alia, the Albanian Communist Party's first secretary, accused Yugoslavia of interfering in Albanian affars. "No state of emergency has been declared anywhere in Albania," Mr. Alia said in an address at the Enver Hoxha tractor factory in Tirana, "there have been no demonstrations" and "the domestic situation is healthy". He accused Belgrade of "inventions" which, he said, aimed "to overthrow the popular leadership" in Albania. [passage omitted]

"Such things," Mr. Alia went on, "are happening in Yugoslavia, where Kosovo province has been transformed into a veritable concentration camp, where violence and arbitrary actions reign." Protest demonstrations were banned in Kosovo following bloody nationalist demonstrations there last March. The region borders Albania and is home to almost 1.7 million ethnic Albanians.

Mr. Alia accused Yugoslavia of interfering in Albania's internal affairs, and called for an end to what he called an "anti-Albanian campaign". Albania, he said, "will remain an invincible fortress" and "will not deviate from the socialist path".

Press reports here earlier said three Albanian border guards defected to Yugoslavia recently after several soldiers were arrested for attending demonstrations last month in four Albanian towns.

Assembly Session Opens; Article 1 Repealed

AU1501082990

[Editorial Report] Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 0800 GMT on 15 January carries a 5-minute live relay of the opening meeting of the 13th Session of the Ninth National Assembly in Sofia. Reporter Tsveti Gerov describes the atmosphere in the National Assembly Hall, and points out the "intensified activity" of the National Assembly and its commissions in recent weeks.

At 0800 GMT, Stanko Todorov, National Assembly chairman, opens the session and invites the members to pay tribute to the memory of a named National Assembly member, who has died since the last session, by observing 1 minute of silence. Afterward, Stanko Todorov reads the following agenda of the National Assembly session:

1. "Draft law on repealing paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 1 of the Bulgarian Constitution.

2. "Adopting a National Assembly declaration on the nationality issue;

3. "Draft law on adopting normative acts;

4. "Proposal on changes in the Council of Ministers membership;

5. "Draft law on amnesty;

6. "Draft law on academic autonomy of the higher educational establishments;

7. "Draft law on amending the Law on Pensions;

8. "Report of the parliamentary commission on reviewing and resolving certain pressing issues related to deformations and violations of legality in state, public, and economic life, including the review of a draft law on repealing the Law on Banning and Disbanding the 'Nikola Petkov' Bulgarian National Agrarian Union and all its units and sections;

9. "Creating a Permanent National Assembly Commission on Agriculture and electing its membership;

10. "Creating a Permanent National Assembly Commission on Issues of Women and Maternity and election of its members;

11. "Proposal on creating a state commission on youth issues."

After reading the agenda, Todorov asks the members to approve it. The agenda is "unanimously approved," Todorov says. Immediately afterward, reporter Tsveti Gerov ends the live relay by saying that "Sofia Radio in its newscasts will inform about the progress of the National Assembly session."

Amendments Considered

AU1501111090 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Excerpts] The 13th session of the Ninth National Assembly session is continuing. Our reporter Yasen Indzhev reports:

[Begin Indzhev recording] First, let me review the agenda of the present session for those of you who have not heard our direct relay of the session opening. [passage omitted]

During the last 2 hours the first item on the agenda was discussed in detail and, at the moment, the second item is being discussed. Andrey Lukanov, chairman of the parliamentary group of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] explained the proposal on repealing paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 1 of the Bulgarian Constitution. He said that in the democratic society that is being constructed in the country, in accordance with the new political course, the role of a certain party cannot be established by a decree or a law. The role is being determined by the confidence and support of the people for its policy. The repeal of the aforementioned constitutional provisions will positively affect the creation of a democratic law-governed state and civic society in the People's Republic of Bulgaria. It is a real step in restructuring the political system and an important precondition of implementing restructuring in the country's comprehensive sociopolitical life.

This morning, while analyzing the session, I said that the repeal of paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Bulgarian Constitution will probably encounter no serious opposition. However, a dispute developed in connection with the proposal to also repeal paragraph 1 of the Constitution. Nine National Assembly members took the floor on this issue, and five of them are well-known jurists, including Vasil Mruchkov, Boris Spasov, Mikhail Genovski, Lyuben Kulishev, and so forth. Different variants were proposed. The proposal of Milena Stamboliyska was discussed. She said that the parliamentary group of the Bulgarian Agrarian National Union [BZNS] had proposed to repeal paragraph 1. Different interpretations of the paragraph were voiced. My conclusion, on the basis of all statements, is that the issue is not only procedural, but also political, because the issue in question is the character of the country's basic law, and subsequently, the character of our state.

Vasil Mruchkov said that this is not only a procedural amendment, but an issue that affects the question of who we are, what we are, and whom the Constitution is serving. Boris Spasov read a detailed statement that had certain emotional connotations. He said that hardly anyone will agree to changing the name of our state—the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The opinion was voiced that since the issue of the character of the state is an issue that affects all citizens of the country, it would be appropriate to enact the amendment after holding a referendum.

As you can see, the number of opinions is equal to the number of people who spoke. Therefore, finally the proposal of Andrey Lukanov was adopted, namely, that a contact group is formed. Its members will be representatives of the parliamentarian groups of the BCP and the BZNS, as well as non-party members, who will discuss a new edition of the first paragraph and make their proposal today. Let me remind you that on the basis of the procedural order, established by Article 143 of the Constitution, such a proposal can be discussed today, however, it can be adopted only after 1 month.

At the moment, the people's deputies are speaking on the second item of the agenda—adopting a National Assembly declaration on the ethnic issue. Stefan Staynov has the floor. I will have more details in my next report. [end recording]

Reducing BCP's Role

AU1501141690 Sofia BTA in English 1314 GMT 15 Jan 90

["Bulgarian Constitution Revokes Monopoly Over Power"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, January 15 (BTA)—There is no text guaranteeing the leading role of the BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party] in Bulgaria's Constitution any more. At its 13th Session held today the Ninth National Assembly passed in principle a law revoking paragraphs two and three of Article 1 in which the Bulgarian Communist Party (BCP) was defined as the leading force in society and in the state and in which it was said that "the BCP heads the construction of an advanced socialist society in cooperation with the Bulgarian Agrarian Party (BZNS)". There was not a single vote against the motion of the BCP parliamentary group.

BCP's giving up its monopoly of power clearly confirms the party's will to be a factor in the democratization and the renewal of socialism and look upon the political pluralism as natural environment for its activity, underlined Mr Andrey Lukanov, chairman of the BCP parliamentary group. In connection with the proposals of the public for changes in the first paragraph of Article 1 which determines the leading role of the working class and in other texts, he expressed the opinion of the parliamentary group that such changes should be made, without waiting to pass a new law at that.

Speaking on behalf of the BZNS parliamentary group, Ms. Milena Stamboliyska proposed that Article 1 should be entirely revoked, pointing out that the procedure requirements cannot be an obstacle if there is a political will. She spoke in favour of revising the texts which give priority to public organizations and ideologies. Thus started the additional discussion of Article 1, the first paragraph of which reads, "The People's Republic of Bulgaria is a socialist state of the working people from town and country, headed by the working class". According to the BZNS deputy Zhelezan Raykov these texts "plunged the country into a political and moral crisis".

The proposal for the repeal of Article 1 coincides with the demands of the independent organizations and recently established parties. On entering the parliament the deputies were met by citizens carrying a poster "down with Article 1 the whole of it".

There were heated debates during which the need of further amendments to the Constitution was affirmed. Many deputies refused to part with the definition of the state as a "socialist" one and with the phrase "People's Republic of Bulgaria".

The proposal of the parliamentary group of the BZNS, against which there were objections of procedure, was not voted. Mr Andrey Lukanov's proposal to set up a contact group of representatives of the two parties and non-party members which should work out a joint proposal to be submitted to the National Assembly was accepted.

Article 1 Discussed

AU1501145690 Sofia Dometic Service in Bulgarian 1400 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] The afternoon session of the National Assembly session began at 1500. However, before our reporter Lilyana Yancheva begins her report, I will ask her a question from our listeners: Has the National Assembly voted on paragraphs 2 and 3?

[Begin Yancheva recording] At its morning meeting, the National Assembly voted in principle on paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 1. We expect the second voting, after which the repeal of the paragraphs will acquire the power of a law.

During the past hour, the National Assembly members continued to review the proposal for a National Assembly declaration on the ethnic issue. Afterward, the declaration was unanimously adopted. They also unanimously adopted the law on amending Decree 1342 on providing apartments for young families with many children. The percentage of such apartments was increased from 25 to 35 percent.

The next item on the agenda—a proposal on changing the membership of the Council of Ministers—deals with Decree 2929 on relieving Georgi Tanev from the post of minister of internal affairs and appointing Colonel General Atanas Semerdzhiev to this post. The people's representatives unanimously approved the decree on appointing Gen. Semerdzhiev minister of internal affairs.

The next item on the agenda dealt with the proposal on amnesty. Vasil Mruchkov presented the draft law. I cannot mention everything that was said about the draft law, let me only mention that according to Article 1 of the amnesty, it will apply to certain crimes specified by the Penal Code, committed after 1 January in connection with the change of the names of the Bulgarian Turkish- Speaking and Muslim citizens. Persons who have committed such crimes have been absolved of criminal responsibility, and their sentenced have been quashed. People sentenced to up to 5 years for crimes based on negligence, who are serving their first sentence, will also be released. The amnesty will also apply to persons sentenced to 3 years, those sentenced to coercive labor, obligatory resettlement, and so forth. As you can see, I cannot mention everything. The draft law was adopted in principle.

The next item deals with the academic autonomy of the higher educational establishments. Corresponding member Aleksandur Yankov reported on the draft law. The debates continue. [end recording]

On Nationality Issue

AU1501204990 Sofia BTA in English
1808 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Sofia, 15 Jan (BTA)—The National Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Rectification of the Abuses Committed Concerning the Turkish-speaking and Muslim population. It is the result of the five-day debates of the Public Council in which 65 organizations, unions and movements had their representatives. Some of them were the spontaneous reaction to the decision to restore the Muslims in the country to their names.

The Public Council was formed at the initiative of Mr Stanko Todorov, chairman of the National Assembly, under the pressure of the mounting social tensions in the country after the decision on the ethnical problem made by the Politburo of the CC [Central Committee] of the BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party] and the subsequent decisions adopted by the State Council and the Council of Ministers for the restoration of the Turkish-speaking and Muslim population to their constitutional rights.

The document points out that the National Assembly considers it the paramount duty of the state, all public and political forces in the country and of all its citizens to maintain Bulgaria's territorial integrity and the people's sovereignty, to respect the rights and freedoms of her citizens.

The National Assembly reaffirms the fundamental right of each Bulgarian citizen to freedom of conscience, persuasions and religion and to a free choice of name. The declaration defines the Bulgarian [as received] as the official language of the state and points out that the state tricolour and the state coat of arms are sacred for the whole people.

The document contains provisions for working out a bill that will provide additional legal and administrative guarantees for the rights, freedoms, the security, calm and the interests of that part of the population which is the smaller ethnical group in certain areas or population centres. A parliamentary commission will be formed with the participation of representatives of the public to work out an overall programme for the implementation of a long-term ethnic policy. The commission will be chaired by the State Council president.

The declaration was made up with the broadest participation of the population. The text itself was jointly worked out by about 80 representatives of the public council, the proposals made in hundreds of citizens' cables and letters were also taken into account.

The people's deputies approved the document, underlining that it is of paramount importance for Bulgaria's fate and that the way it was worked out has no precedent. This is a good and reasonable basis for the achievement of national unity, the speakers pointed out.

Some of the parliamentarians criticized the country's inconsistent policy on the ethnic problem. Mr Milcho Milchev drew attention to the fact that for 100 years after the liberation of the country from Ottoman yoke the Muslims' names have been changed six times. Mr Georgi Dzhagarov proposed to reject the BCP ethnic policy followed until the end of last year because it had been formed in the spirit of Stalinism.

Supporting the decision to restore the Muslims to their rights, part of the MPs nevertheless condemned the way in which it was adopted, i.e. without consulting the people. The member of parliament for the Bulgarian Agrarian Party, Mr Lyuben Stefanov, stated that his party supports the justice of the decision, but at the same time it does not approve and distances itself from the procedure by which the decision was made by the leadership of only one of the ruling parties—the BCP.

The National Assembly endorsed General Atanas Semerdzhiev as minister of the interior. He was appointed to this post formerly occupied by Minister Georgi Tanev by decree of the State Council. The MPs did not avail themselves of General Semerdzhiev's proposal for putting up alternative nominations.

Answering a question General Atanas Semerdzhiev said that he sees the guarantees against the repeats of the arbitrary acts committed by the former regime in the subordination of the Ministry of the Interior to the supreme bodies of state power and placing it under the control of the National Assembly. He defined the distortions of the past as "the result of placing political expediency above the law".

Before the endorsement motion General Semerdzhiev stated his views about the renewal of the security and other law enforcement authorities. He pointed out that their place in the totalitarian system is already being analyzed. Now the ministry must free itself from the tutelage of party structures. It must give up all alien functions imposed on it by the incompetence of the command- administrative system to settle the arising problems by political means". [quotes as received]

The minister of the interior declared himself to be for the reduction of the numerical strength of the ministry, the introduction of competition, elections and limited terms of office- holding for high-ranking officials.

The principles by which the ministry will be guided are independence from all parties and subordination to legislative and executive authorities, supremacy of the law, openness to the public and glasnost. According to the minister's words the understanding concerning "the forces which threaten Bulgaria's security" has been changed.

The ministry will fight against espionage, terrorism, diversions, the attempts to change the constitutional order by force, organized criminality, criminal offences and economic crimes and will maintain public peace. It is envisaged that the State Security will preserve its intelligence and counter-intelligence services and the police will keep its criminal and economic crimes departments. The border troops will perform their functions with their present minimal numeric strength.

Atanas Semerdzhiev proposed that the ministry should start reporting directly to the supreme bodies of state power and should be placed under the supreme control of the parliament.

Concerning the political bodies and party organizations within the system of the Ministry of the Interior he said that the problem can be solved in strict conformity with the Constitution and the principles of building a civic society. Immediate action should be taken to work out a bill of national and social security, the speaker pointed out. He also demanded that separate bills regulating the State Security, the police, the forces of the Ministry of the Interior and the Fire Department should be made up.

A document which is good news for most of the prisoners in the country was also adopted—an amnesty bill. On submitting the bill Mr Vasil Mruchkov, vice-president of the State Council, announced that in 1987 there were 17 thousand prisoners in the country and now this figure is 11 thousand, which means that there are still about 120 prisoners per 100 thousand population—an inadmissible figure, having in mind that in Sweden there are 30 prisoners per 100 thousand population and in the FRG there are 70.

Which groups of prisoners will be favoured? First of all those sentenced on the strength of Article 14 of the Penal Code for crimes ensuing from the forcible change of the Muslims' names in 1984. About 40 prisoners of this group will be amnestied and released, but it should be borne in mind that 100 people were already released at the end of last year by the two previous amnesties granted.

Another group of about 1,000 prisoners will also be freed, 750 of them with first-time convictions for premeditated crimes sentenced to terms of up to three years and about 250 with negligence convictions. The prison terms of the rest about 8500 will be reduced.

Housing, Educational Bills

AU1501212190 Sofia BTA in English 1930 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Sofia, 15 Jan (BTA)—The parliament endorsed a State Council Decree on Housing for Young Married Couples under which at least 35 per cent of the newly built dwellings are set aside for such families. The previous proportion of 25 per cent proved insufficient.

The higher educational establishments' Academic Autonomy Act, which was voted in principle, responded to one of the principal demands of the academic community. The approved text will be published for nationwide discussion and will be put to a final vote at the next session in late January.

The MPs stressed that the legislation was a timely and important first step towards radical reforms in higher education. According to the prevalent opinion, the legislation is just a provisional measure and is seen as a starting point for the promotion of academic democracy.

The law regulates the relations of the institutes of higher learning with the state. The colleges organize the academic independence of teaching and research, and the state implements a uniform higher educational policy and provides its material and financial support.

Under that law, the rights of the higher educational establishments may not be altered or abridged except in the cases laid down in the Constitution and the laws.

A pensions act amendment bill, which was also passed on first reading, limits the size of monthly pensions between 100 and 500 leva. When the bill becomes law, 975,000 people will get a pension rise and another 1,515 people will have their pensions cut.

One major objection to this bill is the fear that it will do injustice to those members of society who have retired on pension after they have reached retirement age and after they have completed the required length of service. It was suggested that that group receive a minimum pension of 120 lev and all other categories get 100 leva a month.

After a review at the Legislative Affairs Committee, the bill will be reintroduced for second reading.

Further on Proceedings

AU1501211990 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2000 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] The 13th session of the Ninth National Assembly continues. Andrey Lukanov, chairman of the commission that is in charge of working on amending the text of Paragraph 1 of Article 1 of the Constitution, read a report. He proposed to the National Assembly deputies that the draft amendment should be officially submitted to the forthcoming session of the National Assembly scheduled for 25 January 1990, together with other proposals on amending articles and paragraphs of the

Constitution, and along with this the work on preparing a new constitution should be accelerated.

Following this report, Army General Dobri Dzhurov, minister of national defense, spoke and briefed the National Assembly deputies on certain problems related to the Bulgarian People's Army. After he submitted the program of the ministry, he pointed out the proposals that new platforms should be adopted for the Armed Forces and for national defense.

Belcho Belchev, minister of finance, read a report on the (?budget of pensions).

The National Assembly deputies also approved a draft bill on repealing the Law on Banning and Disbanding the Nikola Petkov National Agrarian Union. [words indistinct]

The National Assembly deputies confirmed on principle that the decision to establish a permanent commission on questions of youth and [word indistinct] should be examined at the next session.

[Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 2030 GMT on 15 January carried an identical report to the one above, adding that the National Assembly session has concluded]

Article 1 Repealed

AU1601084890 Sofia BTA in English
2200 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Sofia, January 15 (BTA)—Mrs Svetla Daskalova, member for the Bulgarian Agrarian Party [BZNS] and one of the 101 opposition M.P.'s who were stripped of their mandates and immunity and who were subjected to repressions in 1947, demanded full political rehabilitation for the Nikola Petkov Bulgarian Agrarian Party, for Nikola Petkov and his supporters. The BZNS members and the general public are looking forward to this National Assembly act, she said.

Mrs Svetla Daskalova moved that an inquiry be held into the circumstances surrounding the death of Mara Racheva, secretary of G.M. Dimitrov, one of the BZNS leaders before 1947. Racheva was found dead after jumping out of the fourth floor of the State Security headquarters.

Mr Zhelezan Raykov, another BZNS M.P., said that senior military officers had testified in his presence that they had not conspired with Nikola Petkov to stage a coup. Mr Raykov demanded a name-by-name rehabilitation for the agrarian leaders, including Dr G.M. Dimitrov. Mr Zhelezan Raykov said that G.M. Dimitrov did not escape from the country, as previously alleged, but was banished by the then government.

Another bill which got through the first reading would repeal a 42-year-old act outlawing and disbanding the Nikola Petkov Bulgarian Agrarian Party. It is indicated that the decision ran counter to the effective Constitution and to the objective facts.

The motivation says that under the effective procedures at that time, political parties could not at all be disbanded and that such bans had only been imposed under the fascist regime prior to 1944. The dismissal of the M.P.'s representing that faction was unconstitutional and unlawful.

The bill refutes the judicial case against the Nikola Petkov Bulgarian Agrarian Party, describing it as "groundless" and "untenable." An emphasis is laid on the need for full political rehabilitation of Nikola Petkov, of Dimitur Gichev and the other victims of the command-and-administer system in this country.

Mr Andrey Lukanov delivered a report of the Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry Into the Abuses and Breaches of the Law in the State, Public and Economic Life. He also reported on a bill repealing the law banning and disbanding the Nikola Petkov Bulgarian Agrarian Party and all its divisions and sections.

He said that the commission has organised its work in four principal areas: serious cases involving Todor Zhivkov and his family; corruption and malfeasance; deviations from the basic functions of the party, state and economic bodies; review of certain court trials against statesmen and political figures.

Mr Andrey Lukanov said that information on the inquiry concerning Todor Zhivkov and his family will be made public in the nearest future. He revealed that action was taken back in November to investigate the former leaders' foreign currency accounts in Swiss banks. The necessary measures have been taken now to establish the truth through official channels.

The speaker emphasized that the repressions against the Turkish-speaking and Muslim population since 1984 are perhaps the most serious crimes against the people and the state committed by the former dictator.

He supplied details on the unconstitutional actions against the opposition in the late 1940's and against a number of statesmen and political figures over the last few decades.

The National Assembly passed a Constitutional Amendment Act repealing Paras 2 and 3 of Article 1. The abolished text guaranteed the leading role of the BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party].

A contact group has been formed to consider the suggestions for further constitutional amendments. The contact group announced that it agreed to draft amendments, covering among other things Para 1 of Article 1, which gave rise to controversy today. The motions will be submitted to parliament in February.

A parliamentary commission was formed to work out a comprehensive ethnic policy programme, including amendments to the Constitution and the effective legislation. The panel, chaired by Mr Petur Mladenov, will complete its work in the run-up to the elections. It will recruit public figures from all over the country.

The Amnesty Act, the Pensions Act Amendment Act and the act repealing the 1947 law banning and disbanding the Nikola Petkov Bulgarian Agrarian Party and all its divisions and sections were passed by the National Assembly.

The following new National Assembly Standing Committees were established: on Agriculture and Forestry, on Women's Affairs, and on Family, Motherhood and Child Protection. It was also decided to form a Standing Committee on Youth Affairs and Sports.

Army General Dobri Dzhurov, minister of national defence, set forth a concept on modern force development, stressing the need to reckon with internal and external factors. He pointed out that the rapid politicization in the country since November 10 has affected the Armed Forces, too. The new policy line requires substantial changes in the content of political and educational work, in the structure of the governing bodies and in the carrying out of this activity. Changes are also needed in determining the role and the place of the BCP and the Komsomol organizations in the Army, the minister pointed out.

The minister said that single leadership is one of the principles of the further development of the Bulgarian People's Army, along with the promotion of democracy and glasnost matching the military specifics. General Dzhurov stressed that these are exceedingly complicated problems which should be solved after thorough-going consideration, consistently and stage by stage.

The session was closed late this evening.

Late in the afternoon today protestors demanded the resignations of the M.P.'s. They chanted "Out with you," "Everybody out," "Demagogues," "Criminals," "We are the people," followed "How's your conscience?" The principal demand was for the repeal of the entire Article 1 of the Constitution. The session repealed the part of Article 1 which guaranteed the leading role of the BCP. The chants "Democracy" and in support of the Union of Democratic Forces alternated with shouts "Down with the BCP" and "BCP on trial." Scores of demonstrators booed as the M.P.'s left the National Assembly building during an interval.

Participants in Roundtable Talks Interviewed

AU1601102090 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 5 Jan 90 p 2

[Mitko Bozhkov and Vasil Kh. Popov report: "Agreement Was Reached"]

[Excerpts] The consultations on procedural questions for the forthcoming roundtable went on for 2 days. The delegation of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] and of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union [BZNS], with the participation of two non-party National Assembly deputies, held a discussion with representatives of two groups of sociopolitical organizations and movements. One group was composed of over 20 organizations, including the Fatherland Front, the independent Bulgarian Trade Unions, the Komsomol, and several scientific-technical organizations. The second group included a delegation of the Union of Democratic Forces.

Ivan Angelov, spokesman for the BCP, stated as follows: "The delegation of the BCP and the BZNS attaches equal importance to the two series of consultations and expresses the hope that these two series of consultations shall meet at one point, so that we may form a common roundtable—the roundtable of national consensus. We sincerely hope that we shall achieve this goal, BCP spokesman Ivan Angelov declared.

Together with his colleague Georgi Spasov, spokesman for the Union of Democratic Forces, he made the following announcement. [passage omitted]

Following this, the two spokesman, in a relaxed conversation, tried to satisfy the journalists' curiosity and answered all "easy" and "awkward" questions.

RABOTNICHESKO DELO asked the following question: Was there any problem that you thought would be more difficult before the consultations and that turned out to be less complicated during the consultations?

Georgi Spasov: We raised questions that were easy to resolve, such as the question of the peaceful transition from totalitarian to a democratic organization of society. It was, precisely, because we raised this correct and important question that we found understanding on the opposite side. Right from the beginning, 90 percent of our proposals were accepted. However, we expected other kind of difficulties.

Ivan Angelov: Let me specify something. The talks really proceeded in a constructive spirit. Nevertheless, it is not only true that the Union of Democratic Forces submitted proposals, but also that the BCP and the BZNS accepted the proposals. The trend of the talks evolved around ideas, discussions, acceptance, specifications, and others. Therefore, it followed a two-way trend that cannot be assessed on a quantitative basis that, as a matter of fact, is unnecessary. As far as the question of whether a peaceful transition from the totalitarian system to a democratic system is concerned, I think that it is possible. If common sense should prevail on the side of all political and social organizations and movements, the goal can be achieved. Our people demand this from us with great insistence and I think that Bulgaria could set a valuable example in this respect. The BCP has always tried and is trying to achieve this goal rather than engaging in confrontation.

Georgi Spasov: We also think that a peaceful transition to a democratic society is feasible, otherwise we would not have engaged in this work. Nevertheless, inequality still exists between the opposition and the official authorities. At least approximately similar means of expressing our ideals and establishing our organizations, likely to implement the democratic principles we are representing, should be available to us. I think that the BCP should systematically dismantle the expanded and intensified totalitarian social structures that it has built up while we have the opposite task of organizing forms of a civic society that should be independent from the party and state, in order to subject the terrible and merciless machinery called the state, which like a leviathan has engulfed our whole society and every shred of individuality, to some control.

Ivan Angelov: The recent events that happened in Bulgaria within less than 2 months are so important that we could compare this period to several decades. Todor Zhivkov was overthrown by the Communist Party and the BCP began to dismantle its own structures at its own initiative. The process of dismantling started with the center and will be pursued. The purge shall be merciless and not only the center, but also the middle and lower levels that are actually lagging behind and where the purge has not even started in some respects, should be involved. This is expected to happen during the forthcoming pre-congress campaign. It is the party's sincere intention to distance itself from all abuses and distortions, from all crimes, committed in the past in the name of the BCP, without even consulting the 900,000 rank-and-file Communists, who sometimes became the first victims run over by the steamroller of party totalitarianism. The party should also get rid of all its functionaries who have disgraced themselves, who have lost all credit of confidence, or are politically compromised. With its new programmatic declaration that the forthcoming congress is expected to adopt, with the new party statute, with its entirely innovated structures, including new functionaries who shall be much less numerous than today, the BCP will actually become a new party.

RABOTNICHESKO DELO editorial note: This well-meaning dialogue that we "provoked" at an improvised news conference, confirms that the roundtable has encouraging prospects.

Opposition Spokesman Discusses Roundtable

AU1601091590 East Berlin NATIONAL-ZEITUNG in German 11 Jan 90 p 4

[Unattributed report on "exclusive" interview with Bulgarian opposition spokesman Georgi Spasov and Ivelina Asyova from the Sofia Press Agency; date and place not given: "Dialogue Is Not an Exchange of Kind Words"]

[Text] In Sofia, the first session of the roundtable will take place from 18-24 January. This decision was made during preparatory talks on 3 and 4 January between representatives of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union, and the opposition. On this occasion, Georgi Spasov, spokesman of the opposition, and Ivelina Asyova from the Sofia Press Agency granted the following interview:

Question: How do you asses the preparatory talks?

Answer: The Union of Democratic Forces has achieved its goal, which was to clarify what should be discussed at the roundtable, including procedural questions. During the preparatory talks, our basic demand concerning the peaceful transition from a totalitarian to a democratic social system was unanimously adopted. At the roundtable, we will also discuss the separation between the Communist Party and the state, the banning of the organizations of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] from the enterprises, the depolitization of the Army, the militia, and other organizations.

Question: What do you expect from the roundtable?

Answer: Everything that is discussed at the roundtable must be continued as a national dialogue. Exactly two standpoints must be adopted: First, the BCP must dismantle its totalitarian structures. Second, it is our main task to replace them with democratic structures. The state must be brought under the control of democratic structures, which will not be easy. All this must be carefully examined by the BCP, the National Agrarian Union, which was also part of the totalitarian state, and the Union of Democratic Forces. The question arises as to how the old structures can be dismantled and what the new structures should be like so that they assume complete control of the state, and that they are in a position to represent social interests. Democratic institutions must become a guarantee against new claims by a party or other forces that want to assume power.

Question: Why does the Union of Democratic Forces refuse to talk with the Fatherland Front, the Bulgarian trade unions, the youth association, and other so-called formal organizations at the roundtable?

Answer: The Fatherland Front continues to be an official organization in Bulgaria, and at the moment the Fatherland Front is ruling our country. Of what use is a "third wheel" on a two-wheel carriage? The democratization process can, on the one hand, be advanced by the democratic forces, and, on the other, by the reform movement within the BCP, the National Agrarian Union, and the government. The trade unions announced that they will adopt the party's line. Thus, they cannot present an alternative. As far as the program proposed by the BCP is concerned, its goals are not bad, but we will discuss them in detail at the roundtable.

Question: Does the Union of Democratic Forces intend to participate in a coalition government?

Answer: Not at the moment. We have made this clear in our statement. We suggest removing all discredited deputies. Their expulsion would lead to partial elections.

Our people has no traditions in the sphere of democracy. There have been no free elections in our country for decades, and partial elections would be a dress rehearsal for general free elections. We believe that elections should take place at the end of the year and not in the spring, as suggested by the official parties.

Question: What do you mean by "culture of political dialogue?"

Answer: Exchanging kind words at the negotiating table does not mean conducting a dialogue that is characterized by a high standard. If all parties are granted the same conditions, one can speak of a culture of dialogue. I broached this issue during the preparatory talks because one side has access to all the information material and the mass media that may influence public opinion, whereas the other side has nearly nothing. Numerous new parties have formed in Bulgaria. They have no real possibilities to become politically active. They have no medium, not even a single house where they can hold conferences and sessions. The Union of Democratic Forces was assured that some of its demands will be settled in a positive manner before the beginning of the roundtable.

Roundtable Talks Scheduled for 16 Jan

AU1501202490 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] The roundtable negotations on the political organization of society between representatives of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union, independent National Assembly deputies, and the Union of Democratic Forces are scheduled to open tomorrow at 1430 local time [1230 GMT] at the Western Hall of the National Assembly Building.

Thousands Attend Rally on Nationality Issue

AU1401164790 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1530 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Editorial Report] Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1530 GMT on 14 January 1990 carries a recorded report by an unidentified reporter from Sofia Aleksandur Nevski Square, where a rally is reported to be still in progress. The rally is organized by the Union of Democratic Forces and according to the report the rally is reported to have started at 1400 local time. The reporter announces that the majority of participants belonging to the leadership of the Union of Democratic Forces wore badges representing two intertwined hands on the lapels, bearing the inscription: "Reconciliation."

The first speaker at the rally was Petur Beron, an Ecoglasnost leader. A recorded excerpt of his speech, broadcast in progress, is carried. He defines the progress of democratic change in Bulgaria as slow, "moving at the pace of a carriage, driven by oxen," as compared with the democratization process in the rest of Eastern Europe. Nevertheless, the demands of the Union of Democratic Forces are being implemented "one by one," such as legal reforms, and "tomorrow Article 1 of the Constitution is expected to be abolished," he adds, which is greeted with cheers by the crowd.

At this point, the reporter interrupts the recording saying that "over 50,000 and perhaps even 100,000" people are attending the rally at the Aleksandur Nevski Square.

The recording of Petur Beron's speech then resumes. He mentions the forthcoming roundtable talks with the government forces and ironically mentions all those who claim to have been "repressed by the Todor Zhivkov regime, because they had to exchange the new model of their cars for an older one." Beron adds that "with the assistance of their obedient servants, those people hope to dominate us again as they did over 4 decades, but we have all gathered here to show them that we shall not give them this opportunity."

Petko Simeonov is the next speaker. He speaks on the "decisions of 29 December 1989," which resulted in rallies and strikes threatening the "country with a civil conflict." Simeonov does not doubt the "sincere patriotism" of the Bulgarian people, but adds that the "nomenklatura tried to take advantage of the situation to accuse the Union of Democratic Forces" of inciting the Muslims to claim the restoration of their original names. Simeonov repeats the demands of the democratic forces for eliminating Article 1 of the Constitution and other democratic reforms.

After this recorded excerpt, the reporter mentions a few more speakers such as "Asen Michkovski, Doctor [name indistinct] from the Social Democratic Party, Razda Kirova from Podkrepa, Lyubomir Sobadzhiev from the Civic Initiative Movement, Grudi Atanasov on behalf of the Antifascist Forces Leadership, Petur Slabakov, and Petko Oboyski from the Nikola Petkov Agrarian Union, and numerous others. The rally was still going on when we left for the Sofia Radio Studio," the reporter adds.

The reporter further states that Dr. Mikhail Mikghalov from the Union of Democratic Forces, as well as Petko Simeonov, in their speeches "accused the local authorities and party organs, as well as the Khaskovo Oblast Municipal People's Councils, and the local Ministry of Internal Affairs organs of organizing and leading rallies at which they reportedly unleashed nationalistic passions and for which thousands of levas of people's money were wasted."

The reporter adds that "approximately 150,000 people attended the rally at this point."

The report from Sofia Aleksandur Nevski Square ends at 1547 GMT.

Rally Held; Democratic Forces Voice Demands

AU1401204090 Sofia BTA in English 1809 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Sofia, January 14 (BTA)—The opposition Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) demanded from the

National Assembly to hold partial elections for deputies in May and general elections in November this year.

At a rally with the participation of about 60 thousand people today spokesmen of the UDF, uniting ten parties and independent organizations, informed about the positions with which the opposition will start the discussion at the "round table," on January 16, with the governing parties BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party] and BZNS [Bulgarian National Agrarian Union].

The proposal of the UDF for partial elections in May is based on the fact that there are free deputies' places at the parliament at present. Todor Zhivkov and his closest allies received a vote of non-confidence after November 10, last year. The opposition union proposes to its branches during the next weeks to propagate voting of non-confidence to other MPs at least one-third of the 400 member parliament. Through partial elections with alternative candidates, offers the UDF, these places should be filled. And free elections according to the UDF should be held in November.

An accusation was made at the rally against the present leadership of the BCP that it does not tell the whole truth about the economic crisis in this country and ungroundedly slows down the reforms as well as the indictment of Todor Zhivkov and the other ex- leaders. "The concealment of the detailed concrete data about the economic crisis makes difficult the working out of alternative proposals for reforms," said one of the speakers.

According to the resolution adopted at the rally the UDF will sit at the round table on January 16 with clear and categorical demands about democratization of the political life. It will insist on the elimination of the BCP monopoly, on removal of all paragraphs of Article One of the Constitution, on dissolving of the BCP organizations at workplaces, on depolitization of the army and the police, on glasnost concerning the activity, structure and the finances of state security. The chief aim of the UDF is the peaceful transition from a totalitarian toward a democratic structure of the society, reads the resolution.

The UDF will demand the establishing of normal conditions for development of the multiparty system: Full freedom of speech and press, new democratic election law.

The UDF insists also for equality between private, cooperative and state property in the economy, for an impetus to the development toward market economy, as well as for elimination of all laws and acts which are in contradiction with the Constitution and with a number of international agreements signed by Bulgaria. The UDF pays special attention to the demand for repealing of the present regulation concerning the residence of citizens.

The participants in the rally greeted the decision proposed by the public council for a way out of the ethnic crisis.

Democratic Forces Rally Noted in Lovech

AU1401153790 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1400 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] A rally organized by the town's Democracy Club was held in Lovech today.

Over 6,000 citizens, youths, high school students, and guests from Sofia, Pleven, Sevlievo, Troyan, and other neighboring towns, who support the democratic changes in our country rallied in Todor Kirkov Square in the Varosha National Revival Memorial District.

The rally was chaired by Eng Ivan Semkov, coordinator of the Lovech Democracy Club. The first speaker to take the floor was Georgi Spasov, spokesman of the Union of Democratic Forces.

Representatives of the new Social Democratic Party from Sofia and Sevlievo, of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union [BZNS] Nikola Petkov Opposition Union, of the Independent Human Rights Association, the Podkrepa Independent Trade Union, and others took the floor.

The speakers declared themselves in favor of dismantling the totalitarian regime, of overthrowing the nomenklatura, and eliminating the Bulgarian Communist Party's monopoly of power, as well as the party monopoly over the mass media.

The opinion was expressed that free, democratic elections should be held at the end of 1990. With the exception of one negative vote, the participants in the Lovech rally voted in favor of a resolution to be submitted to the National Assembly, expressing the will of the participants in the rally to adopt a democratic, new Bulgarian constitution, while in the meantime Article 1 of the presently valid Constitution should be eliminated completely.

The new constitution should establish a new official public process, an appropriate process for relinquishing and assuming power; equal rights for all forms of ownership before the law; freedom of religion; and the settlement of all problems concerning ethnic groups and communities for the purpose of preserving the Bulgarian people's unity and integrity and in accordance with the international commitments assumed.

Specific demands addressed to the Lovech Municipal People's Council, the Prosecutor's Office, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs were summed up in approximately 20 items of a resolution: They include the request of investigating the Varosha restoration architectural-historical project, called the "black saving box of the nomenklatura." Access to the local radio station and to a page of the NARODEN GLAS local newspaper was requested for the dissemination and publication of the documents of informal movements, clubs, and organizations.

People's Militia Appeals to Citizens

AU1201232790

[Editorial Report] Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1830 GMT on 12 January transmits toward the end of its main evening newscast an "Appeal of the Directorate of the People's Militia." Reception at this point is poor.

The appeal begins by referring to the holding in recent days of numerous "rallies, demonstrations, and mass manifestations with the participation of thousands of citizens, in Sofia and throughout the country," and then point out "frequent cases" at such events "of banners and slogans being attached to historical and cultural memorials." After an indistinct passage, it is stated that "an appeal is made to the leaderships and members of the political parties, public organizations, unions, and movements" to ensure that citizens commit no illegal acts during the holding of such events. The appeal then states that "the organs of the People's Militia, in full accordance with the law," will take all necessary measures "to guarantee the security and peace of the Bulgarian citizens and the protection of their interests."

Public Council Members Give News Conference

AU1201224590 Sofia BTA in English 2202 GMT 12 Jan 90

["Public Council Proposes Way Out of Ethnical Crisis"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, January 12 (BTA)—Mr Stanko Todorov, chairman of the National Assembly, characterised the draft declaration of the National Assembly on the national problem adopted this evening as an important step towards national reconciliation and concord. The draft was submitted by a body which has no precedent in the political history of Bulgaria, the Public Council on the Different Aspects of the National Problem, convened by Mr Stanko Todorov at the beginning of the week under dramatic circumstances. The draft has been worked out by "joint persevering efforts" in the last 24 hours, said Mr Vasil Mruchkov, chairman of the Legislative Affairs Committee with the National Assembly and head of the working group elected by the council. The 19-member working group is made up of representatives of the major political forces and different strata of the population with different religious beliefs and ethnical self-consciousness.

We were united by the shared concern over the fate of our fatherland, said Mr Stanko Todorov in his closing speech. He condemned once again the criminal decision of Todor Zhivkov's totalitarian regime to change the names of the Bulgarian Muslims in 1984, pointing out that this decision is the main cause for evoking ethnical intolerance in Bulgaria. The country has got into an unprecedented international isolation. This act of Todor Zhivkov's regime was denounced by 159 states, including the socialist countries. Mr Stanko Todorov admitted he is to be blamed for not having made a firm and energetic protest against the decision for renaming the Muslims, although he was not among those who made it.

Further on Mr Todorov spoke about the forthcoming legislative measures the National Assembly is to take, the major directions in the activity of the government aimed at providing stable and reliable guarantees for Bulgaria's unity, territorial integrity and indivisibility and safeguarding all Bulgarian citizens' rights and freedoms laid down in the Constitution and the international agreements signed by the country.

According to Mr Stanko Todorov the throes of the creation of a civic society in Bulgaria are yet to come because of the lack of political and civic culture, something "that cannot be learnt by attending crash courses."

After the Public Council completed its work, at a press conference held with the leaders of the Union of Democratic Forces (UDF), the chairman of the Coordinating Council of the Union of Democratic Forces, Mr Zhelyu Zhelev, gave explanations as to the procedure of guaranteeing the right of the Bulgarian Muslims to choose freely their names.

Mr Zhelev (a member of the 19-member working group) said that the procedure will be particularized by the end of February, because things are neither simple nor easy from a legal point of view. The restoration of the names of those Muslims who are willing to get their names back gives rise to many many problems that involve relations of ownership, the possibility of one of the partners in a mixed marriage to be willing to change his or her name while the other one may not want to do so, etc. All possible cases should be taken into account, Mr Zhelev said, and explained that this is not protracting the matter, the reason for the delay is just the experts' opinion that it is impossible to work out the complicated procedure earlier than at the end of February.

Our independent movements are asserting the principles enshrined in the Bulgarian Constitution, law and the international agreements Bulgaria has signed, said Mr Petko Simeonov of the Glasnost and Restructuring Club in answering the question if "the fight for the Muslims' cause" would not affect unfavourably the results of the UDF at the forthcoming elections. This is a position of principle unconditioned by any sympathy or antipathy for a definite category of the population, he said. Mr Simeonov added that "maybe this is political naivety," but the UDF must assert law and lawfulness because this is the only way to establish Bulgaria as a democratic and law-abiding state.

Mr Petur Beron of Ecoglasnost answered a question about the spokesman of the National Committee for the Protection of National Interests, Mr Mincho Minchev, who was said to have been an employee at the security forces in Bulgaria. Mr Beron said that Minchev confirmed to the council his service as a former employee at the Ministry of the Interior and that now he introduced himself as an owner of a private taxi.

Answering a question about the attitude of the UDF to a possible emergence of a population of dual-nationality Bulgarian and Turkish, Mr Beron wittily said that "sitting on two chairs is not very comfortable." Mr Petur Beron explained that in this case suspicions would inevitably arise that more or less these people would serve Turkey's aspirations regarding Bulgaria, the existence of which has been proved as it has been proved that Bulgaria has no aspirations concerning Turkey. The representative of Ecoglasnost expressed the opinion that every man should be given the opportunity of declaring loyalty and choosing freely which country he would live in, a possibility which the operative Bulgarian law has made provisions for.

Public Council Adopts Draft Declaration

AU1201214590

[Editorial Report] Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1830 GMT on 12 January begins its main evening newscast (with very poor reception) with a report on the end of the 4-day meeting of the Public Council for Discussing the Nationality Issue, stating that "in the course of 4 days, representatives of different organizations and associations" discussed the ethnic issue, putting forward "various standpoints, positions, and proposals for settling one of the most serious problems." The announcer then states that the Public Council approved a draft declaration that is to be submitted to the National Assembly for approval. He continues: "Here is the full text of the declaration."

The introductory passage of the declaration makes reference to the high level of tension in the country and the unrest among the population, which is hampering the economy. The declaration continues by stating that "the explosive situation" requires "a complete consistent policy and the prevention of abuses concerning the nationality issue."

The declaration then asserts that the present situation was exacerbated "by the criminal acts of the authoritarian regime of Todor Zhivkov, which, using compulsion and force, undertook a once-and-for-all change of the names of a portion of the Bulgarian citizens," with the campaign reaching its peak in 1984, when "basic human rights" were spurned and "vitally important spiritual and material interests disregarded."

The declaration continues: "A deep rift was driven between the different ethnic groups of Bulgarian citizens, and hostility between them intensified. This policy was one of the main reasons for the mass emigration of the Bulgarian citizens to the Republic of Turkey in the summer of 1989, which created grave political, economic, and moral shocks for the country.

"Following the democratic traditions of our people, its struggle for liberty and human truths, and guided by the supreme national interests, the National Assembly condemns and categorically rejects the abuses committed during the period of the so-called revival process.

"The National Assembly assesses the brutal encroachment upon the liberties and basic human rights as one of the greatest crimes of the totalitarian regime in Bulgaria.

"Bearing in mind the above, and taking into account the debates and recommendations of the representatives of the public who gathered together in the Public Council for Discussing the Nationality Issue in Sofia from 9 through 12 January 1990, with the aim of eliminating this grave legacy and opening the way toward democracy, humanitarianism, and the restructuring of the country, the National Assembly declares that the most important demand of the times today is national reconciliation, consensus, and the unity of all the people, while strictly and consistently respects the basic rights and liberties of citizens that are established in the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and fulfilling the country's obligations that stem from the international treaties and agreements.

"In connection with this, the National Assembly:

"One. Considers that it is the supreme duty of the state, all public and political forces in the country, and all the citizens of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to preserve the integrity of the territory of the country and the sovereignty of the people, to respect the rights and liberties of the citizens in the People's Republic of Bulgaria. Bulgaria is united and indivisible, it is our common fatherland.

"Two. All Bulgarian citizens are equal before the law, enjoy identical rights and liberties, and have identical obligations.

"Three. The National Assembly confirms the basic right of every Bulgarian citizen to freedom of conscience, conviction, and religion. This right includes the free performance of religious services and ceremonies, everyday rituals, and the observance of traditions and customs.

"Four. Every Bulgarian citizen has the right of free choice of name. No one is entitled to apply influence or exert compulsion or force on citizens who wish to preserve their name or to change it by free expression of their own will. The changing of the names of those Bulgarian citizens who wish to change them should be carried out according to a procedure that guarantees their freedom of choice. Bearing in mind the importance of the right of citizens to free choice of a name, these questions should be settled through a special law that should be adopted before the end of the month of February, 1990."

"Five. The Bulgarian language is the official state language in the People's Republic of Bulgaria. It is obligatory for all educational establishments, institutions, and organizations in the sphere of services, as well as for official documents and statements. In other places, in everyday intercourse and relations between individuals, the citizens may also use other languages as they wish.

"Six. The Bulgarian national tricolor flag and the state emblem of the People's Republic of Bulgaria are sacred for all the people. It is prohibited for Bulgarian citizens to fly the flags of other states, except in cases established by the laws of the country.

"Seven. The existence within the country of political or other social organizations such as those organized for the implementation of actions aimed against the territorial integrity, the unity of the nation, or aimed at the splitting or separation of part of Bulgaria's territory on the basis of religious, ethnic, or other principles is not permitted. Such manifestations will be prosecuted with the full severity of the law.

"Eight. The preaching in support of and the commissioning of any discriminatory acts or encroachments whatsoever directed against the dignity of citizens, as well as the incitement of citizens to ethnic hostility and hatred, are prohibited acts, severely punishable under the law. The organs for the protection of law and order are to detect without delay and bring charges against those who display such ideals.

"Nine. It is necessary to precisely observe to the letter the principle of the equality of all citizens before the law, without allowing privileges and advantages.

"Ten. Legislation should be enacted to provide the necessary additional judicial, administrative, and legal guarantees for the protection of the rights, liberties, security, peaceful life, and interests of all the members of that part of the population, in the ethnic sense, in a given region, municipality, or settlement. This relates both to the field of labor and to the satisfaction of material, cultural, religious, and social needs, everyday services and supplies, and property-law relationships. Such groups of the population will enjoy the special protection and care of the state and its organs, with the aim of preventing in any form their forcible expulsion or deportation from their freely chosen places of residence.

"Eleven. A parliamentary commission should be set up, with the participation of representatives of the public and under the leadership of the chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, in order to draft a complete program for conducting a long-term nationality policy, including changes in the Constitution and the existing legislation, which will be submitted for adoption by the National Assembly.

"The drafting of this program should form a basis for the widest national discussion, with the active participation of all public and political forces and movements in the country.

"The National Assembly proposes to all public forces and movements that they should direct their efforts toward coordinated actions throughout the country in order to implement this declaration and overcome the accumulated prejudices, distrust, and difficulties connected with the nationality issue.

"While defending the security and sovereignty of Bulgaria, the National Assembly makes an appeal to the Bulgarian citizens for national reconciliation and consensus, for understanding and friendship, and for joint efforts in order to guarantee the liberty, public interests, and rights of all the citizens, and provide them with good working and living conditions.

"Our democratic development is the sole necessary condition for the nation to conduct an effective foreign policy, for defense of national interests, for Bulgaria's active participation in mutually beneficial international cooperation in the Balkans and in Europe, for the precise and scrupulous fulfillment of the obligations accepted by our country, for overcoming the international isolation, and making our country part of the common European home that is under construction."

In the concluding remarks, it is stated that "The National Assembly is profoundly convinced" that our people possess sufficient historical experience, civic wisdom, and high moral virtues to assess the demands of the times in a mature way, and to work together in order "to build up Bulgaria as our modern, civilized, and democratic common native land."

Turkish, Muslim Rights Movement Established

AU1201203590 Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME in Bulgarian 10 Jan 90 p 2

[M. Donecheva report: "Yesterday's Events"]

[Text] A Movement for the Rights and Freedoms of Turks and Muslims in Bulgaria has been established. Our reporter met its chairman, Medi Doganov, who stated as follows: Our organization was established in Varna for the purpose of rallying all forces against the so-called "national revival" process and in order to maintain close contacts with the progressive democratic forces in the country. The strategy of survival, which included the emigration of 1989, is now being replaced by the strategy of developing our ethnic-cultural and religious originality [samobitnost], and requires unity and understanding with the Bulgarian people. Our movement will struggle for our specific rights and freedoms, such as names, language, ethnic self-awareness, and culture, and shall guarantee the protection and defense of our basic human rights and freedoms in this respect. Without separatist claims whatsoever, our organization is in favor of a well-meaning dialogue for the sake of the Bulgarian nation's unity. At our next meeting the Social Council will brief those attending on our program and our requests.

'Demilitarized Zones' With Muslims Proposed

AU1101214790 Sofia BTA in English 1904 GMT 11 Jan 90

["UDF Suggests 'Demilitarized Zones' Between Bulgarians and Muslims"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, January 11 (BTA)—The declaration of the Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) circulated here suggests organizing the activists of the Bulgarian and the Turkish population in the regions with a strained situation to establish "demilitarized zones." This measure would ensure the conditions for carrying out peaceful social interaction and cooperation between them.

It is also suggested that the mass media should reveal the truth about the forcible change of Muslim names and the events of May 1989, the forcible deportation of the intelligentsia with Turkish-minded ethnical self-consciousness, the targets and the means by which the deportation campaign was provoked and carried out.

The UDF also proposes to release statistical data on the proportion of the different ethnical groups and their growth rate in order to expose the propaganda myth of the numerical superiority of the ethos with Turkish self-consciousness over the Bulgarian ethos [as received].

The UDF insists on bringing to court the organizers of the propaganda nationalistic campaign on the Bulgarian side and the advocates of pan-Turkism, Islamic fundamentalism and autonomy on the Turkish side, if there are any.

Mladenov Meets Bulgarian Muslim Representatives

AU1101150290 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1400 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Text] On 11 January, Petur Mladenov, chairman of the Council of Ministers, met representatives of the Bulgarian Turkish-speaking population. He spoke about the profound processes that are taking place in Bulgaria, he pointed out that the 29 December decisions of the plenum of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee, the State Council, and the Council of Ministers are among the main prerequisites of implementing real restructuring, democratic transformations, and eliminating the numerous deformations and distortions that have been allowed.

This was a political decision, Petur Mladenov said, aimed at restoring the constitutional rights of all Bulgarian citizens. We haven't fully resolved the nationality problem. All those who have ideas and proposals must participate in resolving the issue.

In connection with the tension that emerged in several regions, the chairman of the State Council stressed that tolerance, patience, and understanding are necessary. It is necessary to apply common efforts and new approaches in seeking reconciliation, agreement, and unity.

The representatives of the Bulgarian Turkish-speaking population who took the floor supported the 29 December decision. They unanimously denounced the arbitrary policies and excesses toward the Turkish-speaking population during the period of Todor Zhivkov's autocratic regime. In addition, they unanimously expressed the opinion that Bulgaria's future lies in its democratic development, based on equality and legality under conditions of national unity and consensus.

Further on Meeting

AU1101191290 Sofia BTA in English 1617 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Text] Sofia, January 11 (BTA)—The path to the achievement of a strong national unity through a dialogue and reconciliation was discussed at the meeting Mr Petur Mladenov, president of the State Council, had today with representatives of the Bulgarian Turkish-speaking population.

In his opening speech Mr Petur Mladenov dwelt on the developments in the country after November 10, 1989 and pointed out that great changes had been made to democratize social life. He underlined that one of the most important conditions for Bulgaria's adequate development as a law-abiding socialist state is to rectify all abuses and distortions. In this connection a stress was laid on the key importance of the decisions of the plenum of the CC [Central Committee] of the BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party], the State Council and the Council of Ministers of December 29, 1989. As a result of these decisions a new political situation was created, the product of past deformations and the urgent need of reforms. In the present complicated and conflicting situation it is most important than ever to achieve national concord by common efforts, through a dialogue based on mutual understanding.

The participants in the meeting expressed full support for the decisions of December 29. They unanimously condemned the outrages of the period of Todor Zhivkov's monocracy and the arbitrary acts concerning the Turkish-speaking population. It was all the speakers' shared understanding that Bulgaria's future is in its democratic socialist development based on the foundation-laying principles of equality of rights and lawfulness, national unity and concord.

The participants in the meeting sharply and categorically condemned all attempts to stir up ethnical and religious hatred which would result in impairing the unity of the Bulgarian people and state. In this connection it was pointed out that the propaganda manipulation of different ethnical groups is inadmissible. It was also stressed that the voluntary principle should be applied in the present situation. All participants see Bulgaria's future in the integration of the different strata, language and religious groups in the Bulgarian people and consider that now the peaceful and selfless work and the unity of the whole Bulgarian people are of primary importance.

Poll Supports Decision on Nationality Issue

AU1101151290 Sofia BTA in English
1316 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Text] Sofia, January 11 (BTA)—Eighty-nine percent of the respondents in Sofia support the decision for restoring the Muslim and Turkish-speaking population in Bulgaria to its rights. But most of them criticize the CC [Central Committee] of the BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party], the State Council and the Government for the "hasty and non-democratic" way in which this decision was adopted on December 29, 1989.

The poll held by some sociologists of the Institute for Propagating Marxism-Leninism shows that most of the respondents insist that in the future this population should not be given privileges which may humiliate or scare the Bulgarians.

Eleven per cent of the respondents declared themselves to be categorically against the decision of December 29. They motivated their disagreement by "patriotic motives" and fear that the Muslims may have demands in the field of policy and economy.

The total number of respondents is 182. Six per cent of them do not live in the capital.

The discontent of those who support the restoration of the Muslims to their rights arises from the fact that the decision was not accompanied by popular persuasion and the reasons for taking it were not explained to the population which in the 1984-1989 period was subjected to unprecedented pressure by the propaganda machine of totalitarianism. Thousands of people who, because of the specificity of their profession, post, and sense of discipline in the BCP, more or less took part in the campaign of Todor Zhivkov's regime launched in connection with the forcible renaming of the Muslims found themselves in a delicate situation.

Some of the respondents lay the tense situation in the country to the charge of the people of "the high-ranking echelon of power" or local leaders, others consider that the tension arises from the lack of information or misinformation in the province.

Most of the respondents declared that the opinion of the Bulgarians who live in the regions inhabited by compact masses of Turkish-speaking and Muslim population must be taken into account.

The vast majority points out that the path for the achievement of national reconciliation does not consist in recriminations, mounting tension and looking for faults in the recent or remote past, but in human tolerance and the observation of all democratic principles and procedures.

Todorov Proposes National Policy Commission

AU1101191890 Sofia BTA in English
1734 GMT 11 Jan 90

["Mladenov To Head National Policy Commission"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, January 11 (BTA)—In a declaration published today Mr Stanko Todorov, chairman of the National Assembly, proposed to establish a parliamentarian-public commission on the national policy under the leadership of Mr Petur Mladenov, president of the State Council.

In Mr Todorov's opinion the membership of the commission should be approved at the next National Assembly, after conducting a nationwide dialogue with the Bulgarian people for the purpose of forming Bulgaria's scientific, all-round national policy.

* Zhelev Sees No Future For Socialism

36390121 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian
18 Dec 89 p 20

[Halvor Tjonn article: "West Model for Bulgaria"; first paragraph is AFTENPOSTEN introduction]

[Text] The totalitarian system in Bulgaria must be replaced by democracy following a Western model, emphasizes opposition leader, author and philosopher, Zhelyo Zhelev.

Sofia, 17 December.

He has been called Bulgaria's Vaclav Havel. Zhelyo Zhelev has a unique place within the growing opposition in Bulgaria. When he appears at demonstrations, people flock around him. When, during the chaotic people's meetings in downtown Sofia, often heated debates arise between the demonstrators, the affair is finally turned over to Zhelev for settlement.

By virtue of his position as leader for the Union of Democratic Forces, Zhelev, today, is possibly Bulgaria's most important politician.

As opposition leader and counterpart negotiator for the country's present leadership, Zhelev is distinguished by his moderation. His understanding is very clear, as well.

Little Doubt

In an interview that Zhelev gave to both AFTENPOSTEN and the Soviet Wire Service, Tass, during the weekend, he left little doubt about his long-range goal. To a question from Tass on how Zhelev sees socialism's future in Bulgaria, he replied: "To speak of any future for socialism in this country is nonsense. The system that has existed until now, I will characterize as totalitarian state capitalism. Our goal now is to lead Bulgaria to a modern, democratic capitalism."

Zhelev expresses strong belief that a democratic system can come into being in the near future. Even if the country in the last decades has lived isolated from western political ideas, various parties are in the process of emerging, including a Christian Democratic and a Green Party. "But in the present interim phase I believe that the Union of Democratic Forces will play a major role. When we hold a democratic election, hopefully in a year, the parties can take over," he said.

Zhelyo Zhelev is not willing to write off the present party chief, Petur Mladenov, as many other opposition members are doing: "Up until November of this year Mladenov was foreign minister and played hardly any political roll. Now he has implemented things that we really value. Since the old party leader, Todor Zhivkov, fell last month, Mladenov has thrown out most of his supporters. We expect that results really will emerge from the roundtable that the party leadership has invited us to this week. Whether Mladenov will participate remains unclear, but one of our demands is that he be present."

Not Happy

The Bulgarian opposition leader confirms that the opposition is still not happy with the announcement that changes would be made in the constitution. "It has been agreed that the constitution would be changed to eliminate the communist party's leading role. We will, however, insist that the entire first paragraph of the constitution be stricken. In addition to the provision regarding the communist party's monopoly on power, it also provides for a leading role for the working class over other social classes. A democratic constitution naturally cannot give any specific class a special position above the others."

Elections

Among the direct demands that will be put forth at the roundtable, says Zhelev, is the time frame for democratic elections. The opposition wishes elections in November 1990. Elections held too early will only strengthen the conservative forces. Everything that happens at the roundtable must be reported by the country's mass media, he emphasized. Zhelev pointed out, moreover, that the democratic movement works from very miserable material circumstances. "We have no newspapers, no offices, and practically no telephones. The authorities must come here and meet us," he says.

"You are often hailed as Bulgaria's Vaclav Havel. Your Czech colleagues are now in a position to fill the president's office. Do you see yourself as the future head of state in Bulgaria?"

"I have no ambitions. In the present situation, everyone must do what he can and must. When the country gets a normal political life, I will withdraw," says Zhelyo Zhelev.

Mladenov Receives Orthodox Patriarch Maksim

AU2212212389 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 22 Dec 89

[Text] State Council Chairman Petur Mladenov received His Holiness Patriarch Maksim today.

On behalf of the members of the Holy Synod, the Orthodox clergy, and on his own behalf, Patriarch Maksim offered congratulations to Petur Mladenov on his election as chairman of the State Council and wished him complete success in his work as state leader for the prosperity of our people and the fatherland, and for the triumph of peace between nations and for goodwill between men.

The chairman of the State Council thanked him for the kind greetings and good wishes, and on his part transmitted most cordial greetings to all Bulgarian citizens, to Christian believers, to the clergy, and to Patriarch Maksim, head of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church, in connection with the forthcoming Christmas holidays.

He informed the patriarch and the prelates accompanying him about the latest decisions connected with the radical changes under way in the whole of the country's life.

Expressing full support for the processes of renewal, the patriarch presented certain demands to the state leadership aimed at further expanding the opportunities for the church to manifest itself and carry out its work.

The chairman of the State Council replied that the demands would be carefully studied, with a view to creating all legal conditions for the Bulgarian Orthodox Church to successfully fulfill its mission. In connection with the desire expressed by Patriarch Maksim for Christmas Day and Easter Day to be declared official holidays, Petur Mladenov assured him that he would submit the issue to the State Council with the view that this should be done.

The patriarch emphasized that the Bulgarian Orthodox Church will not slacken its efforts for developing the virtues of Christianity among our people and ensuring the peaceful development of mankind.

Komsomol Plenum Resolution on Youth Roundtable

AU2912113989 Sofia NARODNA MLADEZH in Bulgarian 22 Dec p 1

[Unattributed report: "Resolution on Holding a Youth Roundtable"]

[Text] The Dimitrov Komsomol is ready to hold a constructive dialogue on an equal-rights basis with all young people and social and political structures and associations that are developing their activities within the framework of the law.

The Dimitrov Komsomol is ready to cooperate on an equal basis with all young people and social and political structures and associations that share the ideas of socialism.

For this purpose, the Dimitrov Komsomol proposes the holding of a roundtable in the very near future, with the participation of all interested youth, student, and children's organizations.

The principal aims of the Dimitrov Komsomol in holding the roundtable are as follows:

—to assist development of the processes of democratization of society for implementing radical changes in the country's sociopolitical life;

—to seek what is held in common in the positions adopted, including reaching a nationwide youth consensus on specific issues;

—to assist in averting confrontation among the younger generation;

—to seek the speedy and fundamental solution of the most pressing youth problems; and

—to ensure adequate representation and defense of youth interests vis-a-vis society and the organs of state power.

All questions concerning the period, venue, participants, agenda, method of holding, and the subject of the roundtable should be decided on the basis of mutual agreement between all the interested parties.

Balkan Air Workers Demands Noted

AU0101154390

[Editorial Report] Sofia TRUD in Bulgarian on 22 December on pages 1 and 2 carries a 1,200-word article by Mira Radeva entitled: "Hot Wind Over the Airfield." Radeva reports that the "aviation technicians, engineers, and pilots" of the "Balkan" Bulgarian Civil Aviation "voted nonconfidence in their economic leadership, demanded its collective resignation, and presented other demands." Those demands include "to establish the company as an independent economic entity, to eliminate the disciplinary regulations, that oppress and humiliate the employees," increasing the wages, and "eliminating the so-called 'Unit 28,' and discontinue the use of its aircraft and helicopters only for transporting party and state leaders, and their friends and relatives to their residences, and for the purposes of recreation and hunting."

Radeva asks "why the trade union organization at the 'Balkan' Bulgarian Civil Aviation has not acted until now," and agrees with the workers that "the trade union organization proved incapable of defending the interests of the workers and employees." She points out that "members of the economic leadership began to submit their resignations," and that Trifon Pashov, minister of transportation, "has assumed the task of submitting to the government a proposal to restructure 'Balkan' Bulgarian Civil Aviation."

Turkish Foreign Minister on Bilateral Relations

AU1501142290 Sofia BTA in English
1243 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Sofia, January 15 (BTA)—We have many common interests with Bulgaria, says Mr Mesut Yilmaz, minister of foreign affairs of Turkey. In an interview for today's OTECHESTVEN FRONT the leader of the Turkish diplomacy points out that the common aims of Turkey and Bulgaria as regards their integration with the rest of the European countries create a very favorable base for bilateral cooperation which will have a favorable impact on the economic structures as well.

The minister of foreign affairs of Turkey hopes that soon there will be preconditions for top-level visits between the two countries.

Mr Mesut Yilmaz expresses the opinion that the only reason for the tension in the bilateral relations has been the policy of Todor Zhivkov. We assume this policy as a personal policy of Todor Zhivkov, which has not been discussed and determined by the Bulgarian responsible departments, says he.

Further on the Turkish foreign minister says that as a result of Todor Zhivkov's policy the Turkish-Bulgarian relations have been reduced to zero and that its implementation has also created the "Turkish minority". "For centuries in Bulgaria have lived Bulgarian citizens speaking Turkish language and having Muslim creed but only after the beginning of the obligatory change of the names, the banning of language and the limitations concerning the religion, the emergency of the spirit of national minority was provoked. We think that this was the work of Todor Zhivkov," stressed Mr Mesut Yilmaz.

I can't deny that Turkey and the Turkish Government also have blame for the worsening of the bilateral relations due to certain irresponsible actions, points out the minister. We permitted the appearance of publications which encouraged the separatist movements in Bulgaria. But nevertheless they have not been the decisive reason for what happened and the blame can be shared equally, says Mr Mesut Yilmaz.

The Turkish foreign minister stresses that the Turkish side has no claims over Bulgarian territories but it does not want the Turkish minority in Bulgaria to be a threat for the public order. The only desire of Turkey is that the Turkish-speaking Bulgarians receive back their their rights which they had before 1984. We are convinced that the decision of the Bulgarian Government of December 29, last year, will serve as a good base for improvement of the relations and for peace and cooperation between the two countries, said he.

Mr Mesut Yilmaz thinks that the demonstrations in Kurdzhali and some other cities of Bulgaria are due to the activity of local functionaries who have been mixed up with the policy of Todor Zhivkov and who don't want to lose their positions.

Foreign Minister on Kuwait, Cyprus Visits

AU1201223390 Sofia BTA in English
2101 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Sofia, January 12 (BTA)—Summarizing the results of his meeting with Turkey's foreign minister, Mr Mesut Yilmaz, in Kuwait and the visits he paid to Cyprus and Greece, Mr Boyko Dimitrov, minister of foreign affairs of Bulgaria, stated that the new position of the Bulgarian diplomacy is open, principled, honest and sincere.

Minister Boyko Dimitrov underlined that at his meeting with the Turkish foreign minister the Bulgarian representatives felt themselves to be in a strong and stable position. The case we made was listened to with attention, he said. On the Turkish side there was also goodwill and desire to work together with us for taking the edge off the problems in Bulgaro-Turkish relations and finding a new basis for their development, said the Bulgarian foreign minister, explaining that it is not declarations and good intentions that are the main criterion, but the deeds which the Bulgarian side expects to be done.

That is why in Kuwait we did not reach an agreement on some concrete practical steps for resuming cooperation, he added.

Mr Boyko Dimitrov underlined that the normalization of the relations and the promotion of cooperation can be achieved only by placing Bulgaro-Turkish relations on a sound and principled basis of equality.

For the Bulgarian side the time ahead, including the run up to the next meeting in Ottawa, will be a time of test. We expect the Turkish side to prove in deed that it is ready on an equal footing to seek that basis of bilateral relations which will be built on the sound foundation provided by the universally recognized principles of international law and the Helsinki Final Act.

Commenting on his visit to Cyprus Mr Boyko Dimitrov announced that the Bulgarian side confirmed its sincere solidarity with the efforts the people and the government of that country are making for a just and peaceful settlement of the problem without any outside interference and foreign occupation troops in the island.

The Bulgarian foreign minister assessed his visit to Greece as a manifestation of the unity of continuity and renewal of that country's foreign policy under the new conditions. The traditional relations of good-neighbourliness and cooperation, the interests and concern we share as neighbours are a basis for keeping and further promoting our all-round cooperation which will help assert Bulgaro-Greek relations as a stabilizing factor in the Balkans.

Situation at Kapitan Andreevo Checkpoint Noted

AU1401195190 Sofia Domestic Service
in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] The conditions for passengers at the Kapitan Andreevo Border Checkpoint are reported to be highly satisfactory. The border checkpoint customs officials dealt with 51,000 Bulgarian and foreign citizens during the first two weeks of January 1990, manifesting their great professional skill and excellent manners.

A total of 2,290 Bulgarian Muslims are reported entering our territory, and 1,014 of them are reported departing from it within the period under review. They were all treated with the appropriate attention and with the well-known Bulgarian hospitality.

Albanian Embassy Denies State of Emergency

AU1601102490 Sofia Domestic Service
in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Asked by a BTA reporter to comment on the press reports related to the situation in Albania, a spokesman for the Albanian Embassy in Sofia said:

The reports on a state of emergency and disturbances in Albania are malicious lies. They are totally false. The situation is normal and calm. The stability and normal life in Albania have also been confirmed by foreign diplomats accredited in Tirana, the representative of the Albanian Embassy in Sofia said.

Relations With Israel To Be Resumed 'Soon'

LD1301000990 Prague CTK in English 2013 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Prague, Jan 12 (CTK)—Czechoslovak-Israeli relations are to be resumed soon at all levels, after necessary talks of experts are finished, head of the Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry's Middle East department Vaclav Jizdny told CTK today.

Jizdny led a Czechoslovak delegation at talks with Israeli Foreign Ministry representatives in Tel Aviv on January 9-12.

Czechoslovakia considers it right and useful for both sides to eliminate barriers which existed in bilateral contacts since June 1967, and to discuss possibilities of official contacts, Jizdny said.

This decision is based on the principles of Czechoslovak foreign policy which puts emphasis on democracy and humaneness, and on the principle of opening itself to the world, the Czechoslovak official said. He added that Czechoslovakia's step is based also on the respect the Czechoslovak public has for the memory of the Jews tortured to death during World War II, and follows up the philosophy of President Tomas Garrigue Masaryk who rejected expressions of anti-Semitism.

Czechoslovakia respects Israel's right to existence in peace and security but at the same time respects the right of the Palestinian people, led by the Palestine Liberation Organization, to national self-determination and to forming a state of their own, Vaclav Jizdny said.

The talks in Tel Aviv have shown that there exist differences of opinion on these issues. Nevertheless the Israeli side appreciated Czechoslovakia's effort to help create favourable conditions for seeking a political and peaceful solution to the issue.

The Czechoslovak delegation conveyed to Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens an invitation by Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier to visit Czechoslovakia, which was accepted.

Resumption of Diplomatic Ties Viewed

AU1201172990 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 10 Jan 90 p 13

["(KI)"-signed report: "In the Spirit of the UN Charter"]

[Text] A Czechoslovak delegation is negotiating in Israel on resuming diplomatic ties between both states. This event, which has aroused justified attention, has two mutually linked aspects—bilateral and international. There is no doubt that the resumption of Czechoslovak-Israeli diplomatic relations is to the benefit of both countries and the international community. The government of Ladislav Adamec took the necessary steps toward this; there was basic agreement on this fact in the negotiations that E. Bronfman, chairman of the World Jewish Congress, recently conducted in Prague.

At the same time, the resumption or existence in general of diplomatic ties does not mean agreement with this or that aspect of the other state's activity. As is known, the CSSR—along with the other Warsaw Pact states—broke off diplomatic ties with Israel in 1967 in protest against its aggression against neighboring Arab countries and in disagreement with the policy of territorial expansion which was a consequence of the aggression.

The international community today is not indifferent to the Middle East's knot of problems, and it expects that the Israeli Government, just like its neighbors' governments, will resolve all the region's problems in the spirit of a policy of peaceful coexistence, non-aggression, and without the use of force. In the spirit of the UN Charter, which is also the most objective framework for Czechoslovak-Israeli relations.

Air Traffic Agreement Signed

LD1501092490 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0900 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Israel has announced that it has concluded an agreement with Czechoslovakia on the renewal of air traffic as one of the first steps toward the establishment of full diplomatic contacts between the two countries. Air traffic will be reestablished this summer according to the agreement that was concluded in Prague last week.

Further Reportage on Cermak Expulsion From Cuba

Cuban Charge Summoned

LD1201163490 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1600 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Jorge Arte Davalos, the Cuban charge d'affaires, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry today in connection with the decision to expel Czechoslovak Radio's resident correspondent in Havana, Michal Cermak.

He was told that Czechoslovakia disapproved of the Cuban authorities' action, which directly contravened the principles of free and open exchange of information between countries, and was also inconsistent with the existing level of relations between Czechoslovakia and Cuba.

Prague Radio on Expulsion

LD1401172990 Prague International Service in English 1900 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Czechoslovak Radio's correspondent in Havana, Mr Michal Cermak, was yesterday ordered by the Cuban authorities to leave the country by the first plane available. More from Milada Langerova:

The Cuban authorities have found Michal Cermak's reporting on the situation in Cuba grossly distorting and almost provocative. It's up to every reporter to offer his readers or audience a description of reality as he or she sees it, and this is exactly what Michal Cermak has done, without violating the principle of journalistic ethics. Of course, it is possible to dispute a particular assessment, but there was no room given to polemics by Havana in this case.

It is Czechoslovakia's experience, too, that gagging criticism has no effect. It is our strong belief that no single problem can be solved by rejecting—let alone silencing—critical voices. By rejecting concrete constructive criticisms, Czechoslovakia only undermined its international position. That is our own recent experience.

Whatever happens in a country is, in the end, up to its own people to settle. Just as no foreign journalist can do the job for the local people, no government should consider an outside reporting [as heard] as a threat to its integrity.

Cermak Refuses Comment

LD1301002590 Prague CTK in English 2031 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Havana, Jan 12 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Radio correspondent in Havana Michal Cermak, who was asked by the Cuban authorities on Thursday to leave the country told CTK today that as long as he is in Cuba he will not comment on the Cuban decision. He refused to do so also to several Western news agencies.

The situation in Cuba is not suitable for conducting a dialogue by means of mass media, Michal Cermak stressed.

He said that he leaves for Buenos Aires where he should establish a branch of Czechoslovak Radio next Wednesday. The Cuban side agrees with this one-day delay. He was asked to leave the country by Sunday and then by Tuesday.

Czechoslovak Ambassador to Havana Stanislav Svoboda told CTK today that when he was acquainted with the Cuban decision to expel Michal Cermak, on his own account he discussed with respective Cuban bodies the delay of the correspondent's departure till Tuesday to give him enough time to arrange affairs connected with the ending of his stay in Cuba.

Spokesman Confirms Soviet Military Project Halted

LD1401061790 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2000 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Colonel Stanislav Pohoral, the press spokesman of the Ministry of National Defense, has reacted to numerous questions from the inhabitants of Olomouc and its vicinity concerning the deforestation of the Jedova Hill in the Pohorany area for the purpose of constructing a military installation for the Central Group of Soviet troops. He was empowered to state that the prepared action had been halted as early as June last year, following an agreement with the Soviet side. At the same time, he assured the Czechoslovak public that the agreement was being observed and that the concern raised was unjustified.

Rally Urges Troop Withdrawal

LD1501022990 Prague CTK in English 2005 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Prague, Jan 14 (CTK)—More than 6,000 persons assembled at Pohorany, Olomouc District, North Moravia, today to call for the quickest possible withdrawal of Soviet troops from the district.

The rally organised by the Civic Forums from Dolany, Pohorany and Olomouc culminated in a march to the top of the Jedova Hill. The participants voiced unambiguous protest against the deployment of any foreign troops on Czechoslovak territory and support for the Czechoslovak Government's stand on this issue. The participants proposed free elections or August 21, 1990 as the date of the withdrawla.

In connection with the official announcement that on January 15, 1990 Soviet-Czechoslovak talks on the issue of the Soviet troops in Czechoslovakia, leading representatives of the Party of Democratic Socialism published today a statement expressing their full support for the stand of the Czechoslovak Government which has proposed that the Soviet troops deployed on Czechoslovak territory since August 21, 1968 to withdraw from the country by the end of this year at the latest. [sentence as received]

The Party of Democratic Socialism also called upon the government to appeal to the Soviet Union for publishing the names of the Czechoslovak officials who asked the Soviet Union for military intervention in August 1968, according to a statement of the Soviet foreign minister made last autumn.

Party Supports Stand on Troops

LD1401201390 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1600 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] The leadership of the Party of Democratic Socialism has issued a stand on the question of the presence of Soviet troops on Czechoslovak territory. It has expressed support for the stand of the Federal Government, which has proposed that the Soviet troops deployed on our territory since 21 August 1968 leave Czechoslovakia by the end of this year at the latest.

It has also put forward a proposal for Czechoslovakia to ask the Soviet Government to publish the names of Czechoslovak officials who asked the Soviet Union for military intervention in August 1968.

The leadership of the Party of Democratic Socialism has also spoken in favor of reducing the basic military service: for soldiers to 12 months, and for graduates who have completed military training as part of their curriculum at colleges to 6 months.

Carnogurskiy on Relations With USSR

LD1401055990 Prague Television Service in Czech 1830 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Czechoslovak Vice Premier Jan Carnogursky, who is attending a discussion forum in Vienna entitled, the European Roundtable, remarked at a press conference, among other things, that this forum was another opportunity for eliminating a certain international isolation of Czechoslovakia. He went on to stress that Czechoslovakia's alliance with the Soviet Union cannot be doubted, but that the new conditions require shaping these relations anew.

Horeni Resigns as CSSR-USSR Amity Chairman

LD1401041390 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] At its session in Prague today the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Association [CSFA] carried out fundamental changes in its make-up.

The work of the association will be directed by the temporary coordination council until the end of April, when the extraordinary CSFA congress is due to take place. At his own request, Zdenek Horeni was released from the office of chairman of the association's Central Committee, and Miroslav Bochenek was released from the Office of the Secretary General. Fifty-six people also were released from the Central Committee and 7 were co-opted as members.

Hungarian General Visits, Meets Defense Minister

LD1501173790 Budapest MTI in English 2050 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Text] Prague, January 11 (MTI)—Lieutenant General Laszlo Borsics, chief of staff of the Hungarian People's Army, held talks in Prague on Thursday [11 January] with Brigadier General Anton Slimak, chief of staff of the Czechoslovak People's Army and first deputy of the minister of defence, on the cooperation of the Czechoslovak and Hungarian Armies.

Laszlo Borsics and Anton Slimak signed an agreement on a cooperation schedule between the two Armies for 1990. Mr Borsics was also received by Colonel General Miroslav Vacek, Czechoslovak minister of defence.

Foreign Minister Dienstbier Visits Hungary, Poland

Aims of Hungarian Visit

LD1201132390 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 0600 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Jiri Dienstbier, Czechoslovak foreign minister, will depart from Warsaw for Budapest this morning. Tomas Borec reports on the objective of his visit.

[Borec] Prague-Budapest Relations Rid of the Burden of the Past. This is the title given by the Hungarian daily NEPSZABADSAG to the interview granted by Jiri Dienstbier to its correspondent.

It is expected here in Hungary, that the talks between the Czechoslovak foreign minister and Gyula Horn, his Hungarian counterpart, will concern first and foremost bilateral relations, which were good in the past, and which continue to be good now as well. True, they were hampered by certain problems, such as construction of the Danube barrage Gabcikovo-Nagymaros, or the anxieties of the Hungarian minority living in Czechoslovakia, and also of the Slovak one living in Hungary.

As Jiri Dienstbier told the NEPSZABADSAG daily, it was impossible to solve these problems under the conditions of Stalinist regime rule in the two countries. Today, democratic structures are developing in a parallel way, both in Hungary and in Czechoslovakia, and this will, without doubt, make it possible to resolve the aforementioned problems.

The topic of the talks of the two foreign ministers will undoubtedly also be the European processes. Jiri Dienstbier stressed that the path toward European unification leads through multilateral contacts and it is impossible to imagine it without Czechoslovakia, Hungary, or other central European states.

Talks in Hungary Viewed

LD1301234190 Prague Television Service in Slovak 1830 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] The 2d day of Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier's visit to Hungary began with the ceremonial signing of instruments of ratification to agreements on legal aid and regulating legal aid and regulating legal relations in matters of civil law, family law, and penal matters which were signed last year.

Then an international news conference was held, at which the two ministers replied to questions from Czechoslovak and Hungarian correspondents. Minister Horn announced that President Vaclav Haval will visit Hungary at the end of January, as well as the fact that Hungary will make available to Czechoslovak research materials about 1968; in return, Hungary asked for achival material about 1956. They went on to focus on problems of the national minorities, questions of stepping up relations with Israel, in which both states have already taken the first steps, and also changes in CEMA activities following the Sofia session.

At the end of the visit, Minister Dienstbier gave an interview to Czechoslovak correspondents.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent, in Slovak] Mr Minister, from the political point of view, Hungary and Czechoslovakia have now come closer together. Did your visit also help deal with the problems that interest people on both sides of the border, both in Czechoslovakia and Hungary?

[Dienstbier, in Czech] I am convinced that it did. Mr Horn and I had very good and friendly talks, and we found that we also have practically identical views on all questions of European and world politics, and also on our mutual relations, and on this basis it will be much easier for us to deal with those major problems which have arisen in recent years between Czechoslovakia and Hungary, particularly the Gabcikovo-Nagymaros question, as well as various problems concerning Hungarian citizens in Czechoslovakia, and Slovak citizens in Hungary.

[Correspondent] I would like to ask whether, by any chance, there was any discussion about economic issues during your meeting, as both our economies have much in common.

[Dienstbier] Well, we are not finance ministers, and that is a matter for the ministers of economics, finance, and so forth, so I can only talk about the basic political framework. And here I would like to stress, in particular, the fact that we agreed completely on the point that if we want to join the ranks of the advanced European countries, and reenter Europe as early as possible, then we must apply the same principles in respect to one another which apply in Europe as a whole, and that applies both in human rights and economic principles. The similarity and closeness of the development of our political systems, as well as the relative balance of our economic relations—if I pass over the barriers which have been created more or less artificially in recent years—are such that they create very good prerequisites for a concerted approach between Czechoslovakia and Hungary in European politics. [end recording]

Dienstbier Returns

LD1301194790 Prague CTK in English 1749 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Prague, Jan 13 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier returned home today from an official visit to Poland and Hungary.

In a statement for CTK upon arrival, Minister Dienstbier said Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary have many common problems. "If we really want to enter Europe, we must apply towards one another the principles that are valid in Europe, i.e. that words about friendship, fraternity and mutual aid are words but in practice it is necessary to act, to be frank, truthful and strict towards each other. In this there are no disputes between us, the Poles and the Hungarians," Dienstbier said.

Further on Visits

LD1301223190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2030 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Information about foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier's visit to Poland and Hungary was given by Lubos Dobrovsky, CTK reporter and ministry spokesman. Among other things he said that Jiri Dienstbier has brought with him a letter from Hungarian Premier Miklos Nemeth to Federal Premier Marian Calfa about the problem of the construction of the Danube water project Gabcikovo-Nagymaros. He added that the foreign ministers of both countries evaluated this problem in detail from political viewpoints and they expressed the willingness to solve it to the satisfaction of both countries.

Lubos Dobrovsky also said that the foreign ministers of Czechoslovakia and Hungary also discussed improving the situation of ethnic minorities.

About the talks Jiri Dienstbier had with Polish officials, Lubos Dobrovsky described as very important the agreement for the fastest possible preparation of a protocol which would extend the cultural agreement between both states. The expansion of the small border contact between them must be solved in connection with economic problems.

Havel Receives Polish, Hungarian Figures

LD1401175890 Prague CTK in English 1242 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Prague, Jan 13 (CTK)—Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel held friendly talks here Saturday with representatives of the Polish and Hungarian civic initiatives Adam Michnik, Zbigniew Janas, Miroslaw Jasinski, Gyorgy Konrad and Judit Konrad. The Czechoslovak side was represented also by Sasa Vondra and Jaroslav Sabata.

Poland-CSSR Solidarity Holds News Conference

LD1501033590 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] A 2-day session of the Czechoslovak-Polish Solidarity was wound up in Prague today in the presence of Vaclav Havel, Jiri Dienstbier, Jan Maly, and Polish Deputies Sejm Adam Michnik and Zbiegniew Janas. (Vladimir Krot) reports from a final news conference:

[(Krot)] New Czechoslovak spokesmen of the Polish-Czechoslovak Solidarity were introduced at the beginning. Former spokesmen Jan Carnogursky, Anna Sabatova, and Petr Paspichal were replaced by, among others, Vladimir Sebek, (Juraj Buci), and (Drahomira Fajtova). The number of spokesmen was increased, a fact that reflects optimistic views held by members of this organization regarding future cooperation. This cooperation should concern not only the joint tackling of certain ecological questions and cultural exchanges, but also the overcoming of some persistant obstacles to tourism between the two countries.

The Polish-Czechoslovak Solidarity is, to a major extent, an informal independent initiative, and as such continues to be open to all those who wish to share in implementing its main aim, which is getting rid of certain prejudices and obstacles in the two nations' coexistence.

Meets in Prague

LD1501033990 Warsaw PAP in English 2100 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Prague, Jan 14—The first ever legal meeting on the territory of Czechoslovakia of activists of the Polish-Czechoslovak Solidarity wound up here today.

The guests of the ninety participants in the meeting included President of Czechoslovakia Vaclav Havel, Minister of Foreign Affairs Jiri Dienstbier, International Helsinki Federation Chairman Prince Karol Schwarzenberg and Adam Michnik, Zbigniew Janas and Miroslaw Jasinski.

Jaroslav Valenta, chairman of the first Czech-Polish club in Czechoslovakia, represented his organization at the debates.

The meeting decided that in the near future the Polish-Czechoslovak Solidarity would focus on removing from the Polish-Czechoslovak border what Jiri Dienstbier described as "vestiges of the Iron Curtain"—that is the existing curbs on travel, which act as a brake on the development of Czechoslovak-Polish contacts.

Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier pledged to step up activities to facilitate the border traffic. He announced that some Polish ministers, including Culture Minister Izabella Cywinska, would arrive soon in Czechoslovakia.

Paid Visit by Havel

LD1501034890 Warsaw PAP in English 2054 GMT 14 Jan 90

[By PAP correspondent Leszek Mazan]

[Text] Prague, Jan 14—President of Czechoslovakia Vaclav Havel paid a short visit last Saturday to the members of the Polish-Czechoslovak Solidarity holding debate here and conveyed to them cordial greetings and wishes. The president is one of the founding members of that association.

It was the first in the history of Polish-Czechsolovak relations visit by the president of the republic at the Polish Institute of Information and Culture here, where the debate is held.

Among the participants in the debate there are Adam Michnik, Zbigniew Janas, Miroslaw Jasinski and Peter Uhl.

Last Saturday the president also met with representatives of the Polish and Hungarian citizen's initiatives.

Dubcek, Calfa Receive U.S. Congressmen

LD1301003190 Prague CTK in English 1958 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Prague, Jan 12 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Federal Assembly Chairman Alexander Dubcek met here today a group of U.S. Congress members led by House of Representatives member Tom Lantos.

U.S. Congress members asked what cooperation Czechoslovakia was interested in and what assistance it expects of the USA. Alexander Dubcek said that the Czechoslovak economy strongly stagnated but has the possibility of not pursuing the path of indebtedness but of developing cooperation and joint ventures. However, processes still taking place here must be converted into legislative acts so that they may become irreversible, he said. He stressed the importance of young people from Czechoslovakia to have a chance to learn managing, enterprise and trade, and asked for support for Czechoslovakia's membership of the International Monetary Fund.

Discussion of changes in the management of the state and the forming of political forces in Czechoslovakia took place between the U.S. Congress members and Premier Marian Calfa.

On the agenda of the debate were intentions of the Czechoslovak Government in strengthening democratic principles, developing the pluralistic political system and improving the economy, with special attention focusing on development of international relations.

Talks Set on Diplomatic Ties With South Korea

LD1301120790 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1100 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] A South Korean governmental delegation will visit Czechoslovakia next week to hold talks here about establishing diplomatic relations. Economic and trade cooperation will also be discussed. If the Prague talks are successful, Czechslovakia will be the fourth East European country to establish diplomatic relations with South Korea. So far Hungary, Poland, and Yugoslavia have established diplomatic relations with South Korea.

EEC's Andriessen Discusses Cooperation

LD1401055190 Prague Television Service in Czech 1830 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Report on interview with EEC Vice President Frans Andriessen by unidentified correspondent; date and place not given—in English with superimposed Czech translation]

[Text] [Begin recording] [Correspondent] Mr Vice President, how do you view the possibilities for cooperation between the European Communities and Czechoslovakia?

[Andriessen] I think that it is entering a period in which we will be able to realize general cooperation, not only in trade and commercial matters, but also in all kinds of economic activities. According to the conclusions at which we have already arrived, we are ready to put forward various proposals to enable our appropriate institutions to open concrete talks as soon as possible.

[Correspondent] With what specific proposals have you arrived?

[Andriessen] As I said, we propose to open talks about a broad new economic agreement, and naturally such agreements will be influenced by the impressions and experiences we will obtain during this visit.

[Correspondent] Do you think that the creation of the single West European market in 1992 will influence relations between the European Communities with East European countries?

[Andriessen] I think that the creation of the market and the process of integration in the European Community will contribute to the reinforcement of the internal strength of the European Communities, which in turn will naturally contribute to the creation of better economic possibilities throughout Europe. [end recording]

[Announcer] At a press conference held tonight, Frans Andriessen confirmed the interest in intensifying cooperation between the European Communities and Czechoslovakia. An appropriate agreement is being prepared in this respect, he said, which will concern trade and other economic cooperation, especially in industry, transportation, tourism, education, science, and ecology. To do so, we need certain guaranties of investments and ownership, the transfer of capital, and freeing of private enterprise.

Meets Dubcek

LD1301164890 Prague CTK in English 1842 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Prague, Jan 12 (CTK)—Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities Frans Andriessen was received here today by Czechoslovak Federal Assembly Chairman Alexander Dubcek who voiced on this occasion Czechoslovakia's interest in intensive cooperation with West European groupings.

Frans Andriessen confirmed the interest of the European communities in all-round development of cooperation with Czechoslovakia. He promised support to Czechoslovakia's intention to regain membership of the International Monetary Fund.

While meeting with Premier Marian Calfa, Frans Andriessen said an agreement dealing with trade and other economic cooperation between the European Communities and Czechoslovakia will be drawn up. He said that also the setting up of a foundation, from which costs of the training of students and other experts would be covered, which is being considered would contribute towards establishing solid contacts.

Frans Andriessen also held talks with First Deputy Premier Valtr Komarek and Foreign Trade Minister Andrej Barcak.

Received by Havel

LD1401055690 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1200 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] At Prague Castle today, CSSR President Vaclav Havel received Frans Andriessen, vice president of the Commission of European Communities. In the discussion he stressed that the changes that have taken place in Czechoslovakia are irreversible and that they are a part of accelerating process of changes in Eastern Europe. He spoke in favor of the all-round expansion of relations between Czechoslovakia and the European Communities.

Frans Andriessen welcomed the development in our country in the last few weeks and expressed the European Communities' interest in deepening contacts with Czechoslovakia.

Elections Set for 'First Half of June'

LD1201221890 Prague CTK in English 2020 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Prague, Jan 12 (CTK)—Spokesman of the Coordinating Centre of the Civic Forum Petr Pithart informed journalists here today of the conclusions of the talks of Czechoslovakia's decisive political forces which took place on January 11.

He said that the participants agreed on a constitutional bill which will enable parties to recall their deputies. For instance, the Czechoslovak Communist Party will cancel, according to its own decision, the mandate of approximately 30 per cent of deputies of the Federal Assembly due to which this party will not have a majority in the Assembly.

The participants agreed that Vasil Mohorita will be relieved of the post of a Czech National Council deputy and become a deputy of the Federal Assembly. Other proposals for the posts of deputies will be submitted by the Civic Forum and the Public Against Violence. The Czechoslovakia People's Party wants to relieve three to four deputies.

As regards the electoral bill, Petr Pithart said that the highest legislative bodies reckon with proportional representation of the parties. It was agreed that a party which wants to participate in elections must have at least 10,000 members by mid-April or submit by this term a legal list of signatures of the same number of people who would approve the candidacy of this party.

The elections will take place in the first half of June, the preliminary term is June 8, in twelve districts approximately identical with the present regions. The work of deputies should be professionalized. In order to receive a mandate a party must receive five percent of the vote in the elections.

The Civic Forum and the Public Against Violence propose to cut the number of the deputies of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly, the Czech National Council and the Slovak National Council from the present 700 to 550.

Moravian, Silesian Groups Urge Self-Determination

LD1301101890 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1600 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] The Moravian Civic Movement and the Moravia and Silesia Society issued a joint statement today. The statement says self-administration for Moravia and Silesia is one of the fundamental democratic principles of coexistence of the state's communities. They stressed that at this juncture, the question of restoring self-administration to Moravia and Silesia has become an urgent issue.

The North Moravian initiative called the Friends of Moravia and Silesia has also added its support to the statement.

Write to Havel on Problems

LD1401200690 Prague CTK in English 1721 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Brno, Jan 14 (CTK)—"We are convinced that your visits in Moravia and Moravia-Silesia and the proposals worked out by our specialists for solving the Moravian question will help you take an effective and objective part in the solution of the problem of the position of Moravia and Moravia-Silesia," a letter sent to Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel by the Moravian Civic Movement and the Society for Moravia and Silesia said.

The Moravian Civic Movements recommened the president to choose a Moravian citizen conversant with the problems of the region as one of his advisers.

Interior Minister Rehabilitates 1968 Employees

LD1201223590 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Richard Sacher, the federal minister of the interior, considers former members of the National Security Corps, border guards, professional servicemen and troops of the Ministry of the Interior, as well as civilian workers who were dismissed in 1968-69 for their political attitudes and views as being socially and morally rehabilitated. Minister Richard Sacher apologizes sincerely to all those who were persecuted, and is prepared to assess the possibility of reemploying them.

Army Rehabilitates 1968 Servicemen

LD1201222490 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2030 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] The Czechoslovak People's Army Command considers all former professional servicemen and civilian workers who were persecuted particularly harshly for their political atittudes in 1968-69 to be fully rehabilitated. This was stated by Colonel Stanislav Pohoral, the press spokesman of the Federal Ministry of National Defense. He went on to say that the injustices suffered by servicemen and civilian staff in the period 1948-89 must be remedied, and therefore a central rehabilitation commission has been set up at the ministry.

Victims of Army Purges Set Up Organization

AU1501150190 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 11 Jan 90 p 3

["kj"-signed report: "Defense of Former Members of the Czechoslovak People's Army"]

[Excerpts] Prague (from our correspondent)— A total of 4,857 officers, 955 junior officers, and a so far unascertained number of civilian employees of the military administration were affected by repressive actions because of their active participation in the reform current of the Prague Spring in 1968, or because they expressed disagreement with the military intervention in August [1968].

In mid-December, 587 of them participated in a gathering at the Kiev cinema in Prague to set up the Association of Military Renewal [Sdruzeni Vojenske Obrody] (SVO), which forms part of the Civic Forum. [passage omitted] The meeting was attended by Lieutenant General Miroslav Vacek, minister of national defense, in whom the gathering placed full trust.

On Wednesday [10 January] in Prague, Antonin Zrustek, SVO secretary and press spokesman, briefed journalists on the mission and aims of the association. [passage omitted] The SVO wants to take part in the work on a new Czechoslovak military doctrine and in drafting a new law on the military service. It will contribute to the Czechoslovak People's Army's democratization and to making the Army something that is above party politics. It will set up specialized commissions of experts to analyze the Czechoslovak People's Army, particularly the events of 1967 to 1971 and the entire period between 1945 and 17 November 1989. [passage omitted]

Oskar Bizik, chairman of the SVO Executive Committee, called attention to the fact that demonstrations and hunger strikes for a cut in basic military service put pressure to bear on the ministry, which certainly does not contribute to a solution to the problem.

Neutrality Demanded at Demonstration

AU1401160490 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 11 Jan 90 p 1

["(LOU)"-signed report: "Shorter Military Service for Everyone"]

[Text] Prague (From our own correspondent)—A reduction in basic military training to one year and to 6 months for graduates of university military departments [as received]. This is to be applied retrospectively, including for those who are currently undergoing military training. These are the most important demands made by participants in a demonstration organized by the Czechoslovak Social Democracy Youth Section on Wednesday [10 January] in the Old Town Square in Prague.

The speakers pointed out that if in the new defense bill, which will be discussed by the Federal Assembly soon, a reduction is provided only for those who are now entering military training, not only further methods of protest will take place at military units but relations between soldiers serving their second year and those who are entering the newly reduced service for the first time will worsen substantially.

The participants in the demonstration also demanded an improvement in soldiers' social conditions, greater democratization in the Army, the possibility of alternative military service, and longer leave. There was also a demand for Czechoslovakia's military neutrality.

Police Official's Suicide Triggers Protests

AU1001154090

[Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 8 January on page 1 carries a 250-word CTK report entitled "Another Suicide by an Officer of the National Security Corps." The report notes that Lieutenant Colonel Josef Petracek, chief of the District Administration of the National Security Corps [SNB] in Teplice, committed suicide and was found dead in his office on 5 January. In a farewell letter he reportedly stated that "the cause of the suicide was pressure on him as well as his responsibility for the actions which SNB members took against demonstrators for a better environment in Teplice between 11 and 13 November." The report notes that the suicide "infuriated" members of the SNB District Administration in Teplice, who have addressed a letter to the president and the Czech and federal ministers of interior, in which they demand the creation of independent trade unions that would defend their interests as well as the creation of a parliamentary commission, complemented with members of the SNB District Administration in Teplice, which would, inter alia, "clarify the role played by individual persons in the suicide of Lieutenant Colonel Josef Petracek."

Prague RUDE PRAVO on 9 January on page 3 carries a 350-word "kr, ZA"-signed report, entitled "On the Suicide in Teplice." The report discusses the circumstances of the "intervention against the unauthorized demonstration" in Teplice in November, emphasizing that it was carried out on the basis of a request from the local authorities and that its main aim was to "push out" the demonstrators from the main square. The report deplores that, in discharging their routine duties, SNB members in Teplice "meet with citizens' unwillingness to cooperate, with unwarranted aversion, and even with the aggressiveness of some people." The RUDE PRAVO report mentions that the demands contained in the letter of the Teplice SNB members have meanwhile been endorsed by members of SNB district administrations in Litomerice, Olomouc, Chomutov, Usti nad Labem, Jablonec nad Nisou, and Decin, all of whom "resolutely disagree with a situation which makes it possible to settle personal accounts and to defame the honest work of SNB members."

Sacher on Security Forces

LD1301224190 Prague Television Service in Czech 1830 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] It is not every day that we are invited by ministers to attend working sessions within their ministries, all the more so in respect of the Ministry of the Interior. Its activity and some of its practices were, until recently, taboo for the public, but in the wake of 17 November, this has changed.

From the president of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Dear colleagues, I have learned of your anger at the fact that Dr Josef Petracek was allegedly driven to commit suicide under psychological pressure. I assure you that I am as angry at this as you, and prompt investigation of this case, and the just punishment of those responsible [as received]. I am the president of national understanding, and thus an opponent of all kinds of persecution.

Yours, Vaclav Havel.

That was the text of a letter from Vaclav Havel, the president of the republic, which was read to the participants of a national-level conference of chiefs of the central, regional, and district National Security Corps in Prague today. It was preceded by a working meeting of the federal and republican ministries of the interior, which agreed on matters of reciprocal jurisdiction, and set out a range of problems which they will tackle urgently. During the conference, which was about the principles of the state's security policy in the period of the government of national understanding, Dr Richard Sacher, the federal minister of the interior, replied to some questions.

[Begin recording] [unidentified questioner] Mr Minister, what would you say is the most topical task for the Federal Ministry of the Interior in the immediate future?

[Sacher] I think that first we must work out a sensible concept capable of defending the results and values which the gentle revolution has produced; that is the first thing. Secondly, we must nip in the bud anything that could jeopardize these results in any way. Then I think we must immediately create scope for allowing the trust of the public in the security forces to grow.

[Unidentified questioner] Another question: What are the principles of the state's concept for control of the security forces?

[Sacher] Above all, constitutional principles; above all, parliamentary control; and then by budgetary control, and in view of the fact that the period we are in is rather unusual, I think that at central, regional, and district level we ought to have something in operation like a round table, at which the relevant chief—of course, his authority as commander should not be restricted—would be a point of contact for the public, and I think that this would also give the chief a new view of reality.

[Unidentified questioner] The public is also interested to know, of course, what the future of the state security is going to be.

[Sacher] Well, we cannot allow the government to be separated from certain information. The government must always know what is happening among the people. As far as the state security sector is concerned, then of course those components whose task was to pursue the enemy within are to be abolished, and this must apply throughout the whole structure. As for the other components which were under the control of the state security sector, these will be subordinated to the public security sector. Those, I think, are the three main principles.

[Unidentified questioner] What about the special purpose units, the Red Berets [riot police]?

[Sacher] Well, no state can get by without having certain antiterrorist units; we are going to step up the antiterrorist units, of course, because one of the things we have to face up to is international crime, the fight against drugs, and we will definitely have the Red Berets—they are not going to be called the Red Berets—but we must certainly have an antiterrorist group. [end recording]

Sacher Addresses Conference

LD1401040890 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] This morning, a state-wide aktiv of chiefs and commanders of units of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, and of regional and district commands of the National Security Corp [SNB] took place in the SNB high school. The meeting was opened by Dr Richard Sacher, federal minister of interior. We bring you the most significant ideas from his speech:

[Begin Sacher recording] The security forces were misused as a tool of power politics and coercion for the solution of social problems that should have been solved by other means. One of the foremost tasks in implementing the security policy of the Government of National Understanding is the speedy renewal of public trust in the security units. The new understanding of the position of the Federal Ministry of the Interior and the security components, and the aims of their basic tasks during the period of the goverment of national understanding, emerges from the following principles:

We understand security as a service to the citizens, the people, and the whole of society, which must be reflected in a corresponding manner in a new legal system.

In order to increase the effectiveness of security work, it is necessary to apply the newest findings of science in a much broader manner than heretofore, and to make use of modern technology.

An important principle is the exclusion of any kind of political activity within the framework of the sector of the Federal Ministry of the Interior and all its security components.

Another matter is the strengthening of social and legal certainties for members of the security services, with the knowledge that their service is also linked with a threat to their lives and health.

It is necessary to strengthen markedly the authority, social standing, and calling of those working in the criminal service in the Public Security, particularly in the districts where the main bulk of security work will be found. We will make possible direct contact with the criminal investigation centers of other states and we will renew our membership in Interpol.

As far as the standing and activity of the armies of the Ministry of Interior are concerned, they will be orientated solely the securing of tasks concerning the protection of sites and equipment important for the defense of the state, toward help for citizens in case of natural disasters, and possibly for other tasks according to the decision of the government and the leadership of the sector.

Of primary importance when selecting new security members will be their moral qualities, civic integrity, and skills, regardless of their political affiliation. No one who has a clear sense for upholding the law, for responsibility, who does not agree with despotism and abuse of power, who truly wishes to serve the common good, need fear material or social uncertainty. These are also priority principles that we will be implementing in managing the sector. [end recording]

Riot-Control Police Regiment Disbanded

AU1501130590 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 11 Jan 90 p 2

["is"-signed report: "Stand-By Regiment Abolished"]

[Excerpts] Prague (from our correspondent)— The stand-by regiment [photovostni pluk] of the Public Security Corps in the Czech Socialist Republic will be abolished by the end of February. This was announced by

Antonin Hrazdira, minister of interior of the Czech Socialist Republic, at a news conference on Wednesday [10 January]. All its equipment will be handed over to the Army and the fire brigades.

At the same time, a specialized preparatory school [odborna nastupni skola] for the Public Security Corps will be set up in Prague. Only about one-fourth of the curriculum will be devoted to specialist training. The minister ruled out the use of the school for intervention against demonstrators, for example. The final draft of the status of the school will be submitted to the Czech National Council, the Ministry of Education, and also to the Civic Forum for assessment.

As Colonel Jaroslav Houba, appointed first deputy minister of interior of the Czech Socialist Republic [title as published], and Karel Polacek, head of the personnel administration of the Ministry of Interior, went on to say the first students for the 23-month course of study will be enrolled in this quarter. [passage omitted] The school will have 1,200 students, which is the same number as the stand-by regiment used to have. [passage omitted]

Minister of Interior on Security Situation

AU1201153290

[Editorial Report] Prague LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE in Czech on 8 January on pages 1 and 3 carries a 500-word interview with Richard Sacher, CSSR minister of interior, by an unidentified LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE correspondent entitled "Protection of Peace and Order." The interview, which was conducted on 7 January, deals with the security situation following the presidential amnesty. Sacher says that 22,111 prisoners had been released in Czechoslovakia on the basis of the amnesty by 7 January "to start a new life." He admits that "not all of them have seized this chance" but he also objects that "reports in some information media [about criminal acts committed by the amnestied prisoners] do not provide a balanced picture of the situation." According to Sacher, of the more than 22,000 prisoners released, 155 had committed a criminal act, 272 a minor offense, and 37 a misdemeanor by the evening of 6 January. Even so, the minister continues, on 6 January, acting on the basis of the president's "recommendation," he issued an order "to reinforce members of the Public Security Corps with members of Ministry of Interior troops at places with increased concentrations of people," such as railway stations, bus terminals, and some restaurants. Sacher says that he regards this as a "sufficient measure." Asked about his response to "public pressure" that the Ministry of Interior vacate some of the buildings it now occupies, Sacher says that the ministry will make available "many" of these buildings, but this cannot be done overnight.

'Experts' on Greenpeace Protests Against Temelin

AU0401160090

[Editorial Report] RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 30 December on page 2 carries a 1,000- word "zav"-signed article entitled "Threat of a CSSRnobyl?" The RUDE PRAVO article reviews the reaction of "experts" to the Greenpeace "campaign" against the Temelin nuclear power station, currently under construction in South Bohemia. The article first quotes a statement by Bedrich Moldan, the new minister of environment of the Czech Socialist Republic, made at a news conference in Prague on 22 December. In this statement Moldan describes the decision to develop the nuclear power industry in Czechoslovakia as "not exactly fortunate" but adds that, if electricity consumption in Czechoslovakia continues to grow at an annual rate of 2 to 3 percent, "there is no alternative." The RUDE PRAVO item then reprints a letter which was sent to it by "experts from the Faculty of Nuclear and Physical Engineering of the Czech College of Technology." In the letter the "experts" react to the Temelin study prepared by Engineer Emil Malek in 1983, on whose arguments the Greenpeace campaign is based. They argue that Malek "certainly is no expert in our field" and that his study contains "a number of mistakes, incorrect interpretations, errors, and, we dare say, even absurdities." In view of the quality of this study, the nuclear engineers describe the "intensive campaign" against Temelin as "irresponsible, to say the least" because it "speculates with the lack of information of the lay public and its fear of a repetition of the Chernobyl catastrophe." Although the undersigned experts acknowledge in their letter the need "to subject to a critical evaluation the development of nuclear power engineering in the CSSR," they do not specify which aspects of it they have in mind.

Finally, the RUDE PRAVO item reprints a letter on the same subject which was sent to it by Docent Engineer Karel Trnobransky from the Engineering Faculty of the Czech College of Technology, who chairs the faculty's "department for thermal and nuclear energy installations." Trnobransky says that the views of Emil Malek, who was a research assistant in his department in 1983 when he wrote his study, are not shared by the other staff of the department and that "the contents and the conclusions of the study have been unequivocally rejected" when reviewed by "leading Czechoslovak experts." The experts' review reportedly revealed that the study is "incorrect and not objective from the professional viewpoint" and contains a number of "unfounded assertions." Malek's study is also said to address issues for which Engineer Malek "lacks the requisite qualifications."

'Campaign' Against Nuclear Power Rejected

AU1201130390

[Editorial Report] Prague PRACE in Czech on 5 January on page 5 carries a 1,300-word interview with Ladislav Molnar, first deputy chairman of the Czechoslovak Atomic Energy Commission, by Rudolf Unger entitled "Dispute About Nuclear Power."

In the interview, the date and place of which are not given, Molnar dismisses the arguments put forward by the Austrian branch of Greenpeace during their recent protests against the Czechoslovak nuclear program in Prague. Molnar first questions the Austrians' right "to organize propaganda campaigns against the nuclear program," since they themselves import electricity generated in nuclear power stations in Czechoslovakia, the FRG, and Switzerland. He contends that Czechoslovakia "cannot back away" from its nuclear program, as demanded by Greenpeace, "neither gradually nor all at once." In this context he explains the differences between the energy situation of Austria and Czechoslovakia, which has a more energy-intensive industrial structure, a major ecological problem caused by coal-burning power stations, and which lacks Austria's great hydroelectric potential.

In the interview, Molnar emphasizes that the criterion of nuclear safety has "absolute priority" in all decisions concerning the nuclear program and points out that the Temelin nuclear power station, which is the principal target of the Greenpeace "campaign," will be equipped with containment shells to prevent the escape of radioactive substances in the event of an accident. Molnar also questions the professional qualities of a study by Engineer Malek, which criticized the choice of the Temelin site, saying that experts have "rejected" the study and that Malek's university colleagues "dissociate themselves" from it.

Civic Forum, Social Democrats Discuss Roundtable

LD1401134290 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2000 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Representatives of Civic Forum had talks today with representatives of the Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party about that party's justified demands to be able to participate at the roundtable talks and talks on preparation of the election law. They agreed on a further joint course of action.

Further Reportage on Havel's Visit to Slovakia

Meets Slovak Leaders

LD1201163690 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1130 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] CSSR President Vaclav Havel, arrived in Bratislava today. Here is a report from from Viliam Racek and Ladislav Balko.

Shortly after 1000 a.m. the first citizen of our republic stepped on the Slovak territory for the first time since he was elected CSSR President. The prominent guest whom hundreds of citizens of Slovakia came to greet was welcomed by the highest representatives of the Slovak Socialist Republic! Rudolf Schuster, Slovak National Council chairman, Slovak Premier Milan Cic, and also Jan Budaj, representative of the coordination committee of the civic initiative, Public Against Violence. After the military parade and greetings from the members of the Bratislava garrisons' guards of honor two young people in Liptov regional costumes welcomed Vaclav Havel with bread and salt. In this way they showed the kindness and industry of the Slovak nation. Then Vaclav Havel, president of the Republic exchanged greetings and talked briefly with young people and working people of Bratislava.

In a change from the original plan, president of the Republic then went with his entourage to the village Ivanka near Bratislava to pay tribute to the memory of an important Slovak, General Milan Rastislav Stefanik. This was the place where Stefanik—one of the founders of our state-touched the ground of his native land for the first time. In those tragic circumstances it was also the last time—from the day of the foundation of independent Czechoslovak Republic.

Vaclav Havel then returned to Bratislava. He stopped at the memorial to the Czechoslovak state and then went to Bratislava Castle. There he met Archbishop Jan Sokol. As this was a meeting without journalists I asked the representatives of the office of the President of the Republic here at the Bratislava Castle about what they would be talking. The archbishop said that above all he wanted to thank the president on behalf of our believers.

This meeting was preceded by the official meeting in the Federation Hall and the hall next to it where Rudolf Schuster, chairman of the Slovak National Council, in the presence of the Premier Milan Cic, deputy premiers of the Slovak National Council and of the government and the representatives of the movement of the Public Against Violence made a short speech. He said, among other things: Along with you, esteemed Mr President, we want to see and deal with problems that trouble our citizens and our young people. We want to help you selflessly so we can look into our people's happy and satisfied faces as soon as possible. After the reconstruction of the Slovak National Council, especially with regard to the realistic elimination of superiority of one political party, we are expanding the space for representative, parliamentary application of views, experience and joint decisionmaking to other political parties, members of the civic movement, Public Against Violence and to citizens without political membership. This, too, is our contribution for the implementation of the reality to achieve democratic balance of all political forces without putting any of them above the rest.

In conclusion Rudolf Schuster said we should do our utmost to make the homeland of Commenius, Masaryk, and Stefanik worthy of their bequest and that we multiply the spiritual and material riches of our predecessors.

President Vaclav Havel in his brief reply—brief because as he said, there is no time for long speeches during this 1-day visit of Slovakia—thanked them for the invitation. He said during this day he wanted to learn as much as possible about life in the Slovak Socialist Republic. He then signed the Slovak National Council book of guests.

Addresses Slovak National Council

LD1201144190 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1249 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Speech by President Vaclav Havel to the Slovak National Council session at Bratislava Castle—live]

[Text] Esteemed Mr Chairman, Esteemed Deputies, Esteemed Audience! First of all, I thank you for inviting me to Bratislava. Secondly, I thank you for making possible my presence at your session today. This is the first time in my life that I find myself in a parliament. In addition, I am here in the capacity of the president. As you no doubt understand, this situation is not a customary one for me, and I am glad to find myself in this situation precisely in Bratislava. As I understood from the introductory speech of our Mr Chairman, you have a lot of work today and I am not therefore going to keep you from this work by making a long speech. In fact, I will only say two things.

The first thing is that this brand new experience of mine—to be present in a parliament—has made it clear to me that it is beginning to resemble a parliament, as parliament should be. It is understandable that in this exciting time, when the representative corps are expressing—in a mind of a special and accelerated pace—the will of the public, they frequently vote in a unanimous way. However, at the same time it is a very good thing—and this is what the parliament is just beginning to resemble—that those who vote against and many who abstain are surfacing. This seems to me a good thing. Personally, I am pleased to see my old friend Milan Simecka among the co-opted deputies.

The second thing I would like to say is this. As you know, we are going into free elections. We shall be electing new representative bodies. We shall be electing them for a longer period, perhaps for 4 years. These elections must not serve to fossilize certain structures, which have been outlived and which expressed an administrative concept of the federation, when the federation was not perceived as a friendly coexistence of two independent peoples in one state, but as one of the bureaucratic forms of the totalitarian government. In order not to fossilize this old structure in the new elections, we shall probably have to carry out, ahead of the elections and in connection with adopting the laws on elections, certain changes in the shape of constitutional laws. These changes are being worked on and undoubtedly you will discuss them here on this territory too.

I would ask you—I hope that the president has the right to ask the parliament for something—I would ask you for two things. The first thing is that you work fast, because all the information I have and my instinct tell me that this is a time when it is necessary to work fast.

The second thing is that you work in the atmosphere of national understanding which accompanied this revolution, the revolution which brought me to the highest office in the country and which elevated those who were co-opted here today in deputies' chairs. This atmosphere should also accompany the difficult time ahead of us—the swift preparation of free elections, the swift preparation and approval of many laws, the swift preparation of economic reform. I believe that all this will take place in this atmosphere and, thanks to that, our country will not lose the enormous prestige it enjoys in the world at the moment.

Thank you for your attention, and I wish success in your demanding afternoon session. [prolonged applause]

Welcomed by Slovak Premier

LD1201212990 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1418 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Address by Slovak Premier Cic at a Bratislava rally held in the Slovak National Uprising Square; in Slovak—live]

[Text] Esteemed Mr President [Havel], esteemed dear fellow citizens.

I am making use of the symbolism of the place in which I have the honor of speaking in order to thank from the bottom of my heart all of you who have been gathering in this square and who, by your resolute stand, have lit the flame of the democratic revolution in Slovakia and rejuvenated and ennobled the face of our beautiful homeland. Each of you have written himself or herself forever in the Slovak and Czechoslovak history. I am happy to be able to say these words in such a rare occassion as the first visit by Mr President to us after his election to this highest office of the state. I believe that I speak for everyone when I say that we welcome him cordially not only in Bratislava, in this historic square, but also in the whole our Slovak Socialist Republic. [applause and cheering]

Speaks at Bratislava Rally

LD1201184190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1426 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Address by President Vaclav Havel at a Bratislava rally held in the Slovak National Uprising Square, organized by Public Against Violence—live]

[Text] [Stormy applause, chanting of Long Live Havel] Dear friends, if I had an opportunity to be here as a dissident, I would have worn a woolen ski hat such as Milan or Jano (Kudaj) wear. Jano (Kudaj) today offered me his ski hat to wear so as not to freeze in the cold, but my adviser, Milan Knazko, told me that it was not suitable for a president to wear such a hat. [laughter, applause] Therefore, I am without such a hat, and if I am to continue to be a president for a while, my head should not get frost-bitten. That is why—because of the advice of my adviser not to wear such a hat—that I will be speaking briefly.

I am well informed about rallies which were held in this square during our revolution. I was very unhappy I was unable to come to join these rallies sometimes, but the revolution was taking place also in Prague, and I was needed there. Though I twice managed to visit Slovakia, those visits were very brief—one to the East Slovakian region and one to Bratislava itself, but there was no rally then which I could have joined. That means that I am here only now.

I am happy that what I knew only theoretically or as hearsay has been confirmed—that there is such an excellent and marvelous atmosphere here at the rallies in this square. The atmosphere is a bit, I would say, more calm than in Prague; as if more tenderness, affection, understanding is here, as if a calming breeze blows here from the Slovak mountains. I noticed this during my previous visits to Slovakia. Therefore, I feel very happy here.

I have managed to do a few things today, and still have a few more small things to do. I was invited to the Slovak National Council, and in this way I had for the first time in my life an opportunity to be in a parliament. Moreover, I was there as a president, and therefore I was even give an opportunity to speak, and I spoke there. [applause] I also had the honor to be present at a swearing-in ceremony for new coopted deputies of the Slovak National Council. Nevertheless, we were in a great hurry to go from there to tour the Slovnaft [oil-producing industry] plant. Of couse, in the 1 hour given to the tour we could not see everything, but some things we saw—I am using a plural not because I would be copying Emperor Rudolf II, but because there are more of us, my advisers and my friends who surround me now at Prague Castle—despite the fact that we had only an hour, we learned and understood a number of things about Slovnaft. Those of you who by chance listened to my New Year's speech, and heard that I saw Slovnaft from the plane, might now feel satisfied that I have now seen it on the ground. This time I did not see it from the plane because it was a misty day. What I saw on the ground, and what I heard about it confirmed some things to me which I had realized when I had seen it from the plane.

It would be suitable to finish this speech...[noises from audience]... I have many reasons why I want to end my speech and one is that I want to listen to the songs of Ivan (Hoffmann), because I like them. I think that I am about to finish the speech and I ought to end it with a statesmanlike political saying, which would fit well the president of the republic. I perhaps should say what I have said many times, but maybe some people have not taken notice of it as not everybody has time in these days to watch television or listen to the radio.

I would like to say that I see as my task—and naturally not only mine, as on my own I do not have such great power to be able to achieve some important aims before us—I see as our common task that the federation created in 1968, and which soon showed itself to be only a different form of administrative management within a totalitarian system, be changed into a real federation. This is into a federation in which two independent nations have voluntarily decided to live in one state. They agreed on it because they wanted it, and not because one has forced the other. Our aim is to change this federation into a federation which is fully authentic, and not a formal one. [applause]

I see over there on a banner that Czechs and Slovaks are brothers, and that there is strength in unity. I can agree with what is written there. [Applause]

Not everything will be easy. We are faced with the duty to tackle problems within days, hours, weeks—problems that have been accumulating in this country for the past 50, if not 70 years, and which have been growing. Now everyone wants us to resolve them in a week. Naturally, not everything can be done tomorrow, but it can be done the day after tomorrow if it is to be done in peace, calmly, and with due deliberation.

Of course, dark forces, which is a somewhat dramatic term, perhaps I should...[pauses] I do not know whether it is too dramatic, but after all, I am a dramatist, and so I can use a dramatic term; the dark forces, or, to put it less dramatically, friends of the old order [laughter] are occasionally stirring up the mud. Ranking among this stirring up of mud is that all these problems which have been piling up for decades and decades, fermenting, growing under the surface of the visible, submerged somewhere in the kind of dark, hidden areas of public life, and which now, when we have freedom, have all been inevitably revealed, they are trying to accelerate, use, misuse, distort them in many ways and the like. It is the task of all us—and I am talking about this because this is also the problem of relations between Czechs and Slovaks which, like all the other ones—how should I put it to sound like a president—are the object of some kind of dirty tricks [smejdeni] by these forces. [applause and laughter] I do not know, I will ask my advisor, Milan Kniazko, whether I have put it badly. [laughter] He said that it is all right [laughter] but I should have asked him before I said it, because what kind of an advisor is he when he tells me afterward whether something was in order or not. [laughter] Yes, he has just advised me, and I will award him a point. [laughter]

Going back to the task we are facing and about which I was talking a short while ago, that is, ranking among the task of creating an authentic federation is a kind of strengthening not only of the Slovak representative bodies and the Slovak Government, and the position of the Slovak nation in this state formation in general, but also a kind of strengthening of the city of Bratislava, where I find myself at this moment. [applause] Among the numerous matters about which we have been talking today, in that excessive speed which reflects the overall sudden speed of the history in our country, was that it would probably be a good idea if Bratislava was strengthened in several ways, such as for instance, when an international exhibition is held in Budapest or Vienna, a section of that exhibition be held in Bratislava, which is so close. [applause and chanting] Some others will still have to approve of this, that is, Budapest and Vienna, won't they? [Havel and crowd laugh] Nevertheless, it would be good if only because Bratislava is really very, very close to these cities. From here you can almost see what is happening in Vienna.

I have a feeling that my time is up, my dramatic sense tells me that it is time now to end my speech, and if my adviser approves [Havel mutters something to his adviser and audience cheers] yes, he approves what I had in mind, but corrected it—I had in mind that Ivan (Hoffmann) would sing now, and I would listen to his singing for a while, but my adviser tells me that students are now going to speak. In fact, they should probably have spoken before me, because they are the ones who began the revolution in our countries—and only after them would Ivan follow. He advised me to correct my idea, which I have just done.

Those of you who are of an older age—there are probably not many of such people here—remember that 20 years ago a slogan circulated in this country: "We are with you, be with us!" I think that this slogan could be used—if my advisor will approve—also regarding a relationship of our two nations: "We are with you, be with us!" [chants of Long Live Havel]

Holds Bratislava News Conference

LD1201214590 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1730 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Excerpts] After a public rally held at the Slovak National Uprising Square, CSSR President Vaclav Havel met journalists, among whom was our reporter, Ivan Mjartan. [passage omitted] Ivan, in which topics were the journalists interested most, and what were Vaclav Havel's replies to their questions?

[Mjartan] Questions put by journalists were brief, as were the president's replies. They concerned, for instance, the future and perspectives of Slovakia from the viewpoint of the economy. President Vaclav Havel stressed that they are in essence equal to those in the Czech lands, requiring fundamental changes in economic structures, greater independence, and so on. Asked about what made the biggest impression on him in the course of his visit to Bratislava today, Vaclav Havel said that it was the outstanding atmosphere during the meeting in the Slovak National Uprising Square.

Other questions concerned Czechoslovakia's foreign political activity, and specifically his coming trips to Poland and Hungary. A Polish correspondent was also interested in the question of the establishment of a confederation between Czechoslovakia and Poland. Vaclav Havel stressed that the aim of his visits, probably of 1-day each, is to examine a joint coordinated return of the Soviet block countries into Europe. As regards the project of a confederation with Poland, this is a question which the nations of our states will have to consider. On the other hand, I believe that it is not essential to do everything U.S. advisers advise us to do, although I personally respect Mr Brzezinski, the president said.

And finally, a question and answer which perhaps put today's news conference with Vaclav Havel into a framework: What guarantees exist ensuring that our state will not go back to the former totalitarian system. They are in you, the president replied. You are free citizens who will freely elect our representative bodies. These will pass laws for us and will elect our government. Therefore the main guarantee of the irreversibility of the present process of renewal is the population of our country, Vaclav Havel stressed at the close of the news conference.

Prague Reports News Conference

LD1201221190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2030 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Excerpts] President Vaclav Havel, who is visiting Slovakia, received a warm welcome from members of the Public Against Violence movement this evening in the Mozart House. Meeting domestic and foreign newsmen, he told them about his impressions of his visit to Bratislava. [passage omitted]

The newsmen asked questions about the president's views on topical internal and foreign political developments, and some details of his personal life. In connection with the various interpretations of what was alleged to be his standpoint on the issue of the postwar displacement of the Sudeten Germans during his recent visit to the two German states, these were Vaclav Havel's verbatim words: When I was in those two states, my counterparts and I discussed various matters, but this displacement was not spoken about at all. .

Asked by a Polish journalist what he thought about Brzezinski's idea of setting up a confederation of Czechoslovakia and Poland in the context of his coming visit to Poland, he replied that in his view this project is primarily a matter for our nations to consider with a view to the longer-term prospects. He said that although he respects Mr. Brzezinski's life work, he does not think it essential for us to do what U.S. advisers are advising.

Vaclav Havel also spoke about his upcoming visit to Hungary, and about his readiness to hold talks with representatives of the other socialist states.

Asked whether, in talks with Mikhail Gorbachev, he also intends to talk about the departure of Soviet troops from Czechoslovakia, and whether this will happen by the end of this year, he replied that this problem is a part of a bigger package of problems which he would like to discuss with Mikhail Gorbachev. He does not consider it right, however, to brief newsmen about this before the event.

The president also expressed his view on the process of the crystallization of the various political parties and movements in Czechoslovakia which, in contrast to one of the journalists present, he does not consider is proceeding too slowly. The conditions for true political plurality, however, will not be created until after free elections have taken place, he said. Therefore, he sees the key task of the moment to be the prompt drafting and approval of the electoral law and other vital legislative measures.

One of the questions put to him expressed apprehension about the future of the revolution, and called for some kind of guarantees that the old regime will not return. On this point, Vaclav Havel said that the guarantees are in each one of us. We are free citizens, and it is up to us to keep a watchful eye on the freedom we have fought for. This will have to be done through us, of course, by the representative bodies and the legislation they enact, and also by the government appointed by these legislative bodies. The main and fundamental guarantee, however, is the people of this country—our two nations.

Citizens Committee Takes Over Security Office

LD1501162890 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1541 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Today, at 1500, the headquarters of the National Security Office in Berlin-Lichtenberg was taken over by a citizens' committee, in cooperation with the People's Police and the Military State Prosecutor's Office. The aim is to ensure that work ceases at the building complex in Normannen Street. Representatives of the government, the Lichtenberg People's Police inspectorate, the Military State Prosecutor's Office, and citizens' committees from the whole of the GDR are beginning random checks with immediate effect.

Demonstrators Storm National Security Office

LD1501172690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1636 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Several tens of thousands of demonstrators this afternoon forced their way into the headquarters of the National Security Office in Berlin-Lichtenberg. They climbed over the Ruschestrasse and Normannenstrasse entrances and spread through the complex. Furniture was thrown out of the windows. Calls for nonviolence and calm from the citizens' committee and New Forum were fruitless.

The roundtable, which is currently still meeting, was informed.

New Forum had called a "demonstration against the Stasi and Nasi" for today in Berlin. The venue was the headquarters of the National Security Office in Berlin-Lichtenberg. Even before the start of the action in the complex of buildings on Normanennstrasse in Berlin, construction workers and citizens blocked the entry to the office. Individuals had brought bricks with them. Construction workers drove up in a truck and unloaded rubble. Several of the demonstrators carried Federal German flags. On one inflated skeleton there was the slogan, "Against the revival of the Stasi."

Earlier, a citizens' committee had begun to take over the building in a security partnership with the People's Police and Military State Prosecutors' Office.

Modrow Issues Appeal

LD1501192490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1808 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—GDR Prime Minister Hans Modrow went to the scene. Outside the complex of buildings of the former Ministry for State Security he appealed to the demonstrators for order and level-headiness in the name of the government.

He said that the democratic awakening that began in November must remain free from violence. He said he can fully undertand it when informers are condemned, but nonviolence and level-headedness belong together. There will be people who think differently in every democracy. No one must endanger the democratic awakening. Anyone who ruins anything here must realize that he is harming himself.

A relevant appeal by the government was also read on television, which interrupted its program to transmit it. The text is as follows:

While the representatives of the parties and organizations were discussing all questions of the country's internal security with Prime Minister Modrow and Interior Minister Ahrendt at the roundtable today, irresponsible forces took advantage of falling darkness to occupy and devastate the building of the former Ministry of State Security in Berlin. The democracy which has just started to develop is gravely threatened. The government of the GDR appeals to all citizens to stay calm and level-headed at this difficult hour and to show civic awareness. The government places its full trust in the responsibility of the citizens toward our community.

According to GDR television, some 100,000 demonstrators are in the Normannenstrasse. The situation has got out of control.

Demonstrators Leave

LD1501182490 Hamburg DPA in German 1758 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] East Berlin (DPA)—The demonstrators who forced their way into the headquarters of the former security service this evening have left the building. A measure of calm has been restored, a spokesman for New Forum reported on the radio.

GDR Premier Hans Modrow, of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany-Party of Democratic Socialism, called through a loudspeaker for the demonstrators to be level-headed. Spokesmen for opposition groups also called for nonviolence.

Eyewitnesses report looting and destruction. There were apparently no serious threats made to former "Stasi" staff members.

Details Remain Sketchy

LD1501211690 Hamburg DPA in German 1901 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Excerpts] Berlin (DPA)—About 2,000 demonstrators stormed the state security center of the GDR in the city borough of Lichtenberg this evening. Members of the New Forum opposition group, who called for nonviolence and level-headedness, were able to turn back further demonstrators and to persuade the people in the building to leave again. Prime Minister Hans Modrow took hold of a loudspeaker and called for level-headedness. [passage omitted]

There were still no reliable details about the extent of the violence this evening. Eyewitnesses spoke of looting and destruction, but obviously there were no serious threats against former state security members.

This evening the television program "Aktuelle Kamera" showed the first pictures of the occupation. It showed people forcing their way into the building in a large mass. To cheers, a young man climbed the facade. The television commentator said that it was here that the state security had pulled the strings, and now the bitterness is being expressed. Windows were said to have been smashed. Many people disapproved of this "act of vandalism."

But television showed that the demonstrators were actually going peacefully through the state security rooms, as though on a tour. One woman wrote on the wall the words "Stasi-Gestapo-KGB-Securitate—all bloodsuckers." A life-size portrait of Erich Honecker was later removed from the entrance. On television the calls of New Forum members over the loudspeaker of "please come out" could be heard. [passage omitted]

After the occupation was ended, New Forum members called for the formation of a human chain around the state security building. A further call was for a round-the-clock vigil outside the building. [passage omitted]

Police Chief on Ransacking

LD1601095290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0235 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Excerpts] Berlin (ADN)—Berlin's police chief, Major General Dirk Bachmann, has put the damage done in the building of the former Office of National Security at several hundred thousand Marks. Demonstrators stormed and laid waste to the complex of buildings yesterday evening.

At a midnight news conference, representatives of citizens' committees and the government commission for closing down the former National Security Office, the People's Police and the Military State Prosecutor's Office gave a first overview of the course of the demonstration and the subsequent occupation of the building.

"If there were no deaths or serious injuries yesterday evening," the police chief said, "then that is primarily thanks to the representatives of the citizens' committees, to nonviolent demonstrators, to opposition groups, and thanks to Premier Hans Modrow personally and the level-headed actions of the People's Police, whose appearance in no way led to an escalation of the situation." He laid down measures for the legal consequences to be examined.

"With such acts of violence we will not succeed in continuing the course of renewal and democratization in our country and in our city. And I believe that those people who appeared during the evening in the complex—and there were certainly several hundred or thousand—were in some cases probably filled with hate and desire for revenge."

Bachmann accepted the dissatisfaction and outrage felt by the population following yesterday's revelations about the working practices of the former ministry. Nevertheless, it is necessary to continue the path of security partnership, which had led to acceptable success since 4 November, so that every political movement can have public expression.

During the news conference, representatives of citizens' committees once again described the course of the demonstration. [passage omitted]

Subsequently, journalists had the opportunity to see the results of the acts of violence in the building. There were ransacked offices, damaged furniture, doors that had been kicked in, and many broken windows. Slogans were smeared on the walls, such as, "Death to the Stasi pack", "The time has come", "Where are my files?" and "We will be back." [passage omitted]

New Forum Condemns Violence

LD1601110490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1014 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—New Forum distances itself from the acts of violence committed on Monday in the Berlin headquarters of the former state security service, Matthias Heinrich, from the New Forum press service, told ADN today. This is "no way to conduct conflicts."

Heinrich pointed out that his movement had called for an imaginative and peaceful demonstration. It had the aim of working toward the closure of the institution. Heinrich emphatically stressed the peaceful character of New Forum.

He said that his organization wishes to contribute to guarding the complex in the future and to supporting the citizens' committees already engaged in this.

SPD Condemns Violence

LD1601113890 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1021 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The SPD [Social Democratic Party] Executive has appealed urgently to the population of the GDR not to allow its justified anger against the former state security institution and Office for National Security to escalate into violence. Olaf R. Spittel, head of the SPD's press office, said this to ADN today.

The Social Democrats of the GDR seek a complete clarification of all despotic Stalinist actions and for the consistent pursuit of them by an independent judiciary, but strictly rejects all arbitrariness and violence.

Rioting in Cottbus at Former Security Office

LD1501205690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1957 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Cottbus [ADN]—There has been rioting this evening outside the building of the former Cottbus Area [bezirk] Office of the Ministry of State Security. Around 50 people left a demonstration march consisting of several thousand people, which had been organized by the New Forum, and marched to the north of the city following prayers in the Oberkirche. They attempted to force their way into the office building. Because their entry was barred, they threw stones and windows were broken. After being urged to leave, and in agreement with forces of the People's Police, they finally left the grounds.

Participants in the demonstration carried FRG flags and banners with the slogan "the womb from which the Stasi crawled is still fertile" and chanted "Stasi out, we want to come in."

Demonstrations Around Nation Noted

LD1501224490

[Editorial Report] East Berlin ADN International Service in German carries a number of reports on demonstrations throughout the GDR.

At 1858 GMT, ADN reports from Schwerin: "Around 18,000 people demonstrated in Schwerin this evening, according to organizers. They called for the disclosure of Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] property and its immediate expropriation, immediate access to the media for all opposition groups and new parties, and for the immediate dissolution and verifiable disarming of all branches of the former Ministry of State Security."

At 1959 GMT, ADN reports from Neubrandenburg: "Over 7,000 Neubrandenburgers demonstrated peacefully today against the restoration policy of the SED-Party for Democratic Socialism [SED-PDS] and their security apparatus."

At 2010 GMT, ADN report from Dresden: "A representative of Democratic Awakening today described the first rally of 1990 in Dresden as 'A move against forgetting.' Around 150,000 Dresdeners marched through the city center to the Fucikplatz to speak out against the SED-PDS, against right- and left-wing radicalism, for equal opportunities for all parties and groups, and for vigilance toward all attempts to restore Stalinism.

"Speakers from New Forum, the Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD], the Group of 20, and others tackled the question of the legacy left by the SED and is guilt toward the people. They were repeatedly interrupted by loud chants of 'Down with the SED.' The demands made by the demonstrators included handing over the transition money intended for the former members of the Office for National Security to institutions for the disabled and using it to increase pensions.

"A worker from the Hochvakuum Enterprise called for a 1-hour warning strike on 24 January and said that 34 Dresden enterprises had already expressed support."

At 2014 GMT, ADN reports from Magdeburg: "Thousands of Magdeburgers demonstrated this evening through the city center in favor of a legal dissoluton of the state security [Stasi] apparatus. They oppose the establishment of an office for the protection of the Constitution made up of Stasi remnants prior to the elections on 6 May."

At 2020 GMT, ADN reports from Frankfurt/Oder: "Over 10,000 Frankfurt citizens this evening answered a call by the New Forum and the SPD to demonstrate against the restoration policy of the SED and its security apparatus. The demonstration started in the inner city with thousands joining. At a subsequent rally, several speakers from opposition parties and groups presented the aims and programs of their organizations."

Thousands Protest in Halle

LD1501204890 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1806 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Halle (ADN)—In Halle today, thousands of people joined in the nationwide New Forum demonstrations. On banners and in chants, they called chiefly for a further reduction in the positions of power of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany-Party of Democratic Socialism [SED-PDS]. Representatives of various opposition groups spoke at a subsequent rally at the flag monument in the area capital. Henry Schramm of the Green Party criticized the incapacity for action of the Halle Area [bezirk] Assembly and urged that the current people's representatives be called to account.

The representative of the city of Halle in the newly formed Social Democratic Party Sachsen-Anhalt land executive, Dr. Ruediger Fikentscher, said that his party was at present one of the strongest democratic alternatives for the voters in the GDR. Its program included a new democratic society without the SED-PDS. He included the achievement of German unity among the immediate goals of the GDR social democrats.

30,000 in Erfurt

LD1501205390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1902 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Excerpt] Erfurt (ADN)—Over 30,000 people took part in a demonstration on the Domplatz in Erfurt today. The majority chanted the loud demand "Down with the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED]. Matthias Buechner from the New Forum, who had called for the rally, read out a countrywide appeal from his organization against the restoration policy of the SED and its security apparatus. It calls, among other things, for a real dissolution and checkable disarming of the branches of the former Ministry of State Security, and for the immediate lifting of confidentiality on all documents and orders categorized as state secrets which are present in the area [bezirk] and district [kreis] executives and in the central party archives of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany-Party of Democratic Socialism [SED-PDS]. [passage omitted]

Call For Reunification

LD1501201590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1918 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Karl-Marx-Stadt (ADN)—Black-red-gold flags and the white-green flags of Saxony were characteristic features of the demonstration march today through the center of Karl-Marx-Stadt. This was the response from the democratic opposition platform in the city to the appeal made by New Forum for rallies against a revival of Stalinism. There were banners with the slogans "Stasi out," "Never again fear and lies," "Down with the SED," and "Germany—United Fatherland."

At the subsequent rally, which the organizers said was the largest to date in Karl-Marx-Stadt—totaling around 150,000 participants, most of the 13 speakers, who included members of opposition parties, citizens' movements and people without party affiliations, called for a reunification of the two German states. They also called for fair elections with equal opportunities, the disclosure of what property was owned by the Socialist Unity Party of Germany-Party of Democratic Socialism and the expropriation of party-owned guest houses and enterprises. There was much applause for the call for Karl-Marx-Stadt to be given back its old name of Chemnitz.

Protests in Leipzig

LD1501171990 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1624 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Leipzig (ADN)—Peace prayers at four Leipzig churches, including St Nicholas's, at 1700 opened the second Monday demonstration this year in the city. The demonstration is aimed at forming part of the country-wide action by the New Forum against the restoration policy of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and its security apparatus.

Before the demonstration, there was no agreement with the Social Democrats, the Peace and Human Rights Initiative, and other opposition groups as to whether or not the demonstration should be linked with a rally.

Magdeburg Citizens Protest

LD1401162990 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1603 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Magdeburg (ADN)—Tens of thousands of Magdeburg citizens responded to a joint call from opposition parties and movements in the GDR for a demonstration on the cathedral square on Sunday afternoon. There were demands that all political means should be used to prevent the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] from returning to power. The SED-PDS [Party of Democratic Socialism] should now declare that it would not take part in the future government, demanded Hans-Jochen Zschiche of New Forum. At the same time, he rejected the former bloc parties, which were now in the starting blocks again. A representative of Democratic Awakening demanded that the "hundreds of thousands of party and economic functionaries" on all levels of the SED-PDS should be deprived of power.

After the demonstration, a majority of the demonstrators, who included a considerable number of FRG citizens, marched to the offices of the [area] executive of the SED-PDS. A black, red, and gold flag was raised and placards with anti-SED slogans were affixed to the door there.

'Token Strikes' Held

LD1501164790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1532 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—Token strikes were held in several cities and villages of the Gera and Karl-Marx-Stadt areas [bezirke] and in an outpatients' department of the hospital in Berlin's Hohenschoenhausen borough today.

Demands for speedier democratization in the GDR and for a speedy and uncompromising disbanding of the former Office for National Security were underscored in Gera by several thousand workers from various enterprises who downed tools for an hour. The strike call by the SPD [Social Democratic Party of Germany] and the "Election Alliance '90" was heeded by, among others, workers of the Modredruck transportation enterprise, the Plattenwerk, and the Energy Combine. [passage omitted on various other token strikes]

Security Office To Disband by 30 Jun

LD1201145490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 431 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—GDR Prime Minister Hans Modrow affirmed today at the 14th session of the People's Chamber in Berlin, that the GDR National Security Office will be disbanded by 30 June this year. So far, more than 30,000 employees of the former State Security Ministry or office have been discharged, he said in response to questions. The government representative charged with the dissolution of the office, Peter Koch, will be released from duty, since he has not proven to be able and competent.

Modrow affirmed that an Office for the Protection of the Constitution will not be set up before the elections on 6 May.

Interim Report on Berlin Security Force

LD1201215590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1846 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Excerpts] Berlin (ADN)—About 70 percent of the approximately 2,500 full-time employees of the former Berlin Area (bezirk) office for National Security have been either dismissed or are in the process of being redeployed in a civilian occupation. This emerged from an interim report by the control committee for the disbandment of this institution, which was conveyed to ADN on Friday.

The report says that about a quarter of the employees had been charged with operative tasks. All others had been employed in administration. Furthermore, about 10,000 voluntary employees had been recruited who were paid an average of M 110 per annum per person. Investigations of up to 1,600 individuals had been carried out. Up to 50 employees had been deployed for the totally covert observation of one person.

The former area office is said to house at least 27,000 registered files.

The district (kreis) offices had closely cooperated with the first secretaries of the former Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] district executives, the area administration with the former first secretary of the SED area executive, and the center via former Minister Mielke of the former SED Politburo. The Ministry for State Security was managed by the Politburo. [passage omitted]

The Democratic Peasant Party (DBD) and the Green Party have been taking part in the committee's work since 5 January.

Former State Security Installations Inspected

LD1201211290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1736 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Leipzig (ADN)—Today, in the area of Machern (Leipzig Area) [bezirk], the citizens' committee, the community pastor, and police officers viewed further hidden installations of the former Ministry for State Security/Office for National Security.

Two days ago an underground installation with intelligence devices had been viewed here. This time the citizens inspected two fenced-off bungalows. A radio transmitter had been installed in a cellar.

Military State Prosecutor Colonel Koechner expressed his displeasure at the fact that one is continually discovering new installations. He called for all those responsible in the former Ministry of National Security to be released from their pledge of secrecy in the coming week. Only in this way would lost trust be regained.

Police Lieutenant Colonel Pawlowski, who is responsible for the dissolution of the Ministry of National Security/Office for National Security, ensured that the intelligence devices would be switched off and preserved.

National Security Weapons Handed Over

LD1201212790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1832 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The handing over to the German People's Police of all arms, ammunition, and explosives of the Berlin Area [bezirk] Office for National Security, which is being wound up, was completed today at 1700. The storage, which is to be monitored, is to take place in relevant arms depots of the Ministry for Internal Affairs. This was announced to ADN by the Citizens' Committee for the Disbanding of the Berlin Area Office.

The weapons and ammunition of the former Neubrandenburg Area Office for National Security were removed yesterday and today, and taken over by the National People's Army. The transfer took place under the supervision of a military state attorney and members of the area authority of the German People's Police.

"Not a single weapon is missing." This was said to ADN after the disarming of the offices of the former Office for National Security in Erfurt Area by the government representative, Bernhard Schenk. A comparison between the inventory of the office and the weapons taken over by the Erfurt Area authority of the German People's Police had shown no differences. The disarming was concluded on 5 January under the supervision of the State Prosecutor's Office and citizens' initiatives. The ammunition is being stored in an Army establishment.

Modrow Names New Representative on Stasi

LD1501093890 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0854 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Peter Steglich has been named as the new government representative for disbanding the Office for National Security. Premier Hans Modrow announced this today to the roundtable. Until now Steglich has been working in the diplomatic service and has dealt primarily with disarmament questions.

Modrow also stated that the relevant government commission has been reformed and its sphere of competence increased. Through this it is now possible to bring the whole process to a close more quickly than originally planned. He reaffirmed the coalition government's readiness to compromise to cooperate with the roundtable's security working group in the disbanding of the security office.

According to Modrow, it is principally a question of eliminating the causes for the citizens' existing anxieties and to create trust. Without this there could be no progress on the path to democratic renewal.

Security Disbanding Procedure Questioned

LD1501111590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0911 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The representatives of New Forum posed several questions to the premier in connection with the disbanding of the Office for National Security [MfS] and its cooperation with the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED]. The seriousness of the government offers still has to be examined. New Forum is prepared to provide the civilian head of the commission for the disbanding of the security office. Democratic Awakening considers it impossible for a member of the SED-PDS [Party of Democratic Socialism] to be head of the commission for the disbanding of the security office, its representative emphasized. The spokesman for Democracy Now expressed reservations about the appointment of a diplomat to this office especially since a number of diplomats had at the same time been MfS workers with the knowledge of the foreign minister. This step was seen as a burden. The DBD [Democratic Peasant Party] spokesman proposed the formation of a committee of three for the disbanding of the office, under the leadership of the church, with one representative from the opposition and one from the established parties.

A member of the CDU [Christian Democratic Union] from Leipzig, who cited examples, emphasized his concern that many well-meaning decisions made by the government are being undermined on other levels. Modrow's participation in the roundtable is very much welcomed by the SPD [Social Democratic Party], as well as by other parties and groupings. The efforts of the SPD are directed at meeting the concerns of many people—to guarantee stable relations in the country up to the elections. The Green Party asked about which environment and health service installations the building capacities of the former Ministry of State Security are being used or will be used in the future. A representative from the Initiative for Peace and Human Rights criticized the fact that the People's Chamber had passed a law on changing the Constitution without public discussion. The representative from the Independent Women's Association demanded that a social reform program be presented. Hans Modrow answered some of the questions immediately. Other answers will come in the reports of government representatives.

Interior Minister Reports on Internal Security

LD1501112290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1039 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Public order and security have been maintained, Interior Minister Lothar Ahrend said at the start of the government report on internal security to the roundtable. This succeded despite many new conditions such as the opening of frontiers, demonstrations, and an increase in cross-frontier traffic. In 1989, 129,846 investigative proceedings were made and over 94,900 suspects were investigated. The varied security partnerships with citizens' committees had proved to be essential for the maintenance of public order and security, as well as nonviolence. The increase in threats of violence, Ahrend said, is worrying. These are increasingly politically motivated.

The report noted an increase in neo-fascist activities in the GDR. They represent a considerable potential resulting in dangers which have to be taken seriously.

Further on Report

LD1501114490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1055 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—A total of 136 people are being investigated for abuse of office, corruption, and personal gain. This was stated by GDR Minister of Internal Affairs Lothar Ahrendt at the roundtable in Berlin today. So far 67 investigative proceedings, three of them against persons unknown, have been instituted in this connection and 28 suspects are in custody. The extent of the necessary investigations required the use of about 400 detectives and other police officers.

The open borders offer new opportunities to Western secret services that have stepped up their activities, the interior minister said. They are working with the latest technology and his ministry is unable at present to counter their activities. Work with intelligence resources and methods in espionage reconnaissance and counterespionage, countering terrorism, the prevention of sabotage, and other activities have been stopped. Since the creation of a GDR Office for the Protection of the Constitution has been rescinded, Ahrendt proposes that such tasks should be transferred to his ministry. The necessary specialists, as well as material and financial resources, will be taken over. [passage omitted]

Interim Report on Security Ministry Disbanding

LD1501115190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1111 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Manfred Sauer, deputy head of the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers, has given an interim report on the state of the disbandment of the Office of National Security. He pointed out that after the assumption of office by Honecker, and the promotion of the then minister, Mielke, to the Politburo, the security apparatus was developed and activity against those thinking differently stepped up. In the final years, manpower was doubled to 85,000, of which 21,000 had been directly operative, 1,052 engaged in telephone tapping, 2,100 in postal control, and 5,000 in observation and investigation. The demand by the population for an end to all illegal practices has been fully met by government resolutions. The Justice Ministry is currently preparing a bill for the rehabilitation of all citizens sentenced unjustly, which would then be dealt with by the government. All instructions and resolutions which had been directed against political dissidents, and which, at least since 1985, had amounted to "wholesale surveillance," have been repealed. The government resolutely condemns all practices which, proceeding from a mistaken security doctrine, had been applied, and had led to the excessive development of the security apparatus.

Further on Disbanding

LD1501125790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1123 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—By today, 30,000 employees of the former security office had been dismissed, Manfred

Sauer, deputy head of the secretariat of the GDR Council of Ministers, stated at today's roundtable session in Berlin. Sauer gave an interim report on the state of disbandment of the Office for National Security as a successor to the former Ministry for State Security. He said that a further 22,500 workers in the office are at present being integrated into the national economy, the health service, and the Armed Forces. Of the approximately 32,500 workers still working there, a further 20,000 would be rapidly dismissed in the near future.

The report states that about 109,000 "unofficial people" are working for the former security office. "Conspiratorial work" is no longer being conducted inside the GDR with these forces. In 1989, M3.6 billion was made available from the state budget to the former Ministry for State Security Security Office, which was 1.3 percent of the state budget. Financial resources are at present available only on the basis of decisions by the Council of Ministers, and as a result of the disbandment of the office. The sum is expected to reach M500 million, and is subject to strict control by the Ministry of Finance.

Sauer gave a detailed overview of the weapons' stocks of the former office. By 13 January 1990, all stocks from the former district (kreis) and area (bezirk) offices for National Security had been confiscated and the weapons' armories of the central installations cleared. The confiscation of weapons by the Interior Ministry will be complete by 25 January.

The former Ministry for State Security had over 2,037 installations at its disposal, 468 of which had been handed over. In 539 cases, the transfer has been initiated. [passage omitted]

Operations Cease

LD1501134190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1155 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—Surveillance of the postal service ceased on 8 November 1989. Manfred Sauer, deputy head of the secretariat of the GDR Council of Ministers, announced this at today's roundtable in Berlin. Sauer gave an interim report on the state of disbandment of the Office for National Security as successor to the former Ministry for State Security. He said that the control of the postal service had been carried out by the former state security service in rooms belonging to the postal service, to which postal workers had no access. Cables and lines have been cut by the post office, and the tapping and recording of telephone conversations and telexes is no longer technically possible, Sauer said. All tapping and monitoring equipment would be dismantled by 31 January 1990.

By 31 October 1989, the former Office for National Security had over 12,900 cars, 1,000 small transporters, 3,025 Ikarus buses, 226 Robur buses, and 2,124 trucks. A decision on their future lies exclusively with the local councils, the speaker said.

All electronic data is stored in archives and sealed by the State Prosecutor's Office. The computer center in Normannen street had stopped work. A decision on the treatment of this data would be made in cooperation with the citizens' committees.

Instructions had been given to terminate all utilization agreements for installation of a planned office for the protection of the Constitution, Sauer stated.

There are demands from citizens' committees to look at further former state security installations, including installations that were subject to the strictest secrecy for interests of GDR national security. On behalf of the government, Sauer offered roundtable representatives who are willing to maintain state secrets the opportunity to examine such installations. [passage omitted]

Spokesman on Roundtable Talks, Security Forces

LD1301155190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1439 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Excerpts] Berlin (ADN)—GDR Prime Minister Hans Modrow will address himself in writing to the roundtable in which, on the basis of Thursday's government statement and Saturday's discussion by the Council of Ministers, he will submit proposals for the cooperation between the government and the roundtable. This was announced by government spokesman Wolfgang Meyer at a government news conference Saturday.

The government sees opportunities for multifaceted cooperation with the roundtable. Prime Minister Modrow is likely to attend the roundtable discussion on 22 January.

The report on the internal security of the GDR, which was discussed by the government on Saturday, will be given on Monday by Interior Minister Lothar Ahrendt, Wolfgang Meyer announced. No successor has yet been appointed for the dismissed representative dealing with the disbandment of the former Office for National Security, he said in reply to a question. He confirmed that no organ for the protection of the Constitution will be set up before 6 May, as stated clearly by the prime minister before the People's Chamber. [passage omitted]

The GDR proceeds from the premise that the cooperation of the CEMA countries as part of the increasing international division of labor will also, in the future, be of great importance, Meyer said with reference to the 45th session of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance held in Sofia last week. The government had fully approved the attendance by the GDR delegation under Prime Minister Hans Modrow.

The renewal of the whole system of cooperation between the CEMA countries and its further development are linked to numerous complicated issues which also necessitate interim solutions in areas such as pricing. The GDR has tabled relevant proposals in Sofia.

In the view of the GDR Government, the objective should be to break radically with the present bureaucracy and to organize cooperation along market-economy lines. Enterprises and establishments of the countries will then become the main actors of integration, the government spokesman emphasized. The GDR Government will continue to table proposals. As is known, Prime Minister Modrow, in his government statement, has also requested the roundtable to do likewise.

Modrow Secretly Speaks to Roundtable

LD1401180390 Hamburg DPA in German 1642 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Hamburg—Prime Minister Modrow says he had talks behind closed doors on Friday [12 January] evening with the moderators of the roundtable—that is to say representatives of the church—and reached an understanding as to how the cooperation could be constructively continued. Modrow, who was speaking in an interview with the newspaper BILD, plans to convey a letter to the roundtable on Monday with his concept on various questions.

It is expected that former high-ranking Stasi officers will provide information to the roundtable regarding the dissolution of the old security service. Asked whether this was right that he was sending six former officers to the roundtable for this, Modrow said: "You know a great deal. I do not wish to say more about this."

Regarding the call made by the SPD [Social Democratic Party of Germany] for the return of party property seized by the SED [Socialist Unity Party of Germany], Modrow said that party Chairman Gregor Gysi would have to deal with this. The SED must analyse its property exactly and thoroughly and assess its legal status and examine everything on the basis of the law.

Roundtable Begins; Modrow To Attend

LD1501083290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0801 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—The seventh session of the GDR roundtable began at Niederschoenhausen Castle in Berlin on Monday [15 January] morning. The representatives of 16 parties, political groupings, and organizations expect detailed information about the GDR security situation. A relevant promise was given last Thursday [11 January] before parliament by the government. The Council of Ministers discussed the report at its session on Saturday [13 January]. Prime Minister Modrow appeared to attend the discussions despite earlier reports that he could not be present because of the New Year reception given for the diplomatic corps. Modrow is to make a statement to the body. GDR television is covering the debate live. [passage omitted]

Modrow Statement

LD1501104390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0859 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Statement by Hans Modrow, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, to the roundtable in Berlin on 15 January]

[Text] Berlin (ADN)— Ladies and gentlemen, it was difficult for me to accept your invitation. And it is essential that I leave you in about 1 and ½ hour's time to be present at the New Year's reception for the diplomatic corps, something which is undoubtedly necessary for our country.

Please consider my presence here today—I shall make another suggestion soon—as a sign of goodwill and, above all, of the great concern for the internal situation. In the latest government statement, I spoke about those restless souls in the country who are needed for the further democratic development. At the same time—and there is no contradiction here—reason and perceptiveness are required to ensure that the GDR does not disintegrate. If that were to happen, and there are some who want this, then the worst possible service would have been done to the citizens of this republic, as well as those of the Federal Republic, and to the political stability of Europe; nay, a black day could be in the offing. It is the responsibility of all of us to prevent this. I therefore appeal to the citizens of the GDR to preserve circumspection.

I would again ask a number of politicians and media of the FRG not to turn the GDR into a preparatory arena for interfering in the elections. And I would ask the representatives of all parties and groupings here at the roundtable not to let the prime minister and his government founder on their task but to ensure that they can do the necessary work. Everybody claiming political responsibility can reach a point when he has to decide between the general good and party political objective. By accepting my office I have decided in favor of working for the interests of all the citizens of our country. It would be only fair to appreciate this. It would benefit the citizens of the GDR to help with this work. I hope that the issues up for discussion today can be answered satisfactorily by the government representatives.

I have taken the appropriate step arising from the criticism expressed on 8 January. Mr. Koch has been released from his function as government representative for the disbanding of the Office for National Security.

I am using this opportunity to again warmly thank the representatives of the Evangelical and Catholic churches, as well as the working group of Christian churches for their great efforts at the roundtable and for the inner peace of the GDR. In my statement in the People's Chamber on 11 January, I already emphasized the important, and even indispensible, work being done by the roundtable for democratic renewal. I repeat and stress that the government needs and is looking for the advice of those parties and groups involved at the roundtable. Democratization, and also the stabilizing and reform of the economy, requires the consensus of all responsible forces. The fact that it has to be brought about through debate is a result of political pluralism not only at this table but also, in particular, from the complicated situation in the GDR. I had and do not have another understanding of the roundtable.

My request to you consists of three main points: First and foremost, we should jointly see that further internal political development takes place peacefully, that the humanist quotation "no violence" from the revolution begun in October remains true. This requires our responsibility for the life and welfare of the citizens, as well as our responsibility for Europe and to the world.

Second, I ask you to help so that the work in all spheres of the economy can be carried out without disturbance and, therefore, as productively as possible, so that daily life runs normally and the reform processes can be continued, so that strikes do not burden this normal life, strikes which damage the economy, which we all—in the final analysis—will have to pay the price. I also see this as a necessary prerequisite for greater effectiveness on the part of the solidarity and support promised by the Federal Republic.

Third, I ask you to use your political influence so citizens of the GDR remain in their ancestral homeland. No one can expect miracles after about 8 weeks of work from the government. However, I assure all citizens of the GDR that with our own efforts and with outside aid our country has a realistic chance of stabilizing material production and supply by the end of the year, thereby introducing the start of prosperity. When I speak of outside aid, I also mention the prerequisites and conditions for our further stable cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other CEMA states, with which we carry out, as before, two-thirds of our foreign trade, as well as the steps and measures introduced by the People's Chamber for the GDR's extensive integration and participation in the international division of labor in relation to European markets. The meetings held over the weekend with representatives of the Federal Republic signal this. Put another way, it is worth staying in the GDR.

Please allow me, proceeding from the explanation, to emphasize and supplement the proposals which my government has submitted to the roundtable. These are, in particular: immediate and responsible participation in government work through competent personalities—we can discuss and then agree on the details of how this will happen; participation in commissions, working groups, and other bodies of the government and its organs, including the economic committee recently confirmed by the People's Chamber, which will replace the former planning commission with a totally new structure for the creation of a framework for the development of the GDR's national economy; the submission of talking points for my next meeting with the federal chancellor of the Federal Republic, in particular for the contents of the treaty-based community; participation by a group of representatives of the roundtable in the working meeting with the FRG chancellor; participation in the preparation of laws and decrees and other important decisions by the Council of Ministers with the objective of making government work more efficient. I am thinking here of participation in the shaping of necessary reforms which are to become effective before 6 May and the work of the GDR in the CEMA, but also, and especially, of participation in agreements and more effective methods for the speedy inclusion and deployment of forces, which are either becoming available or are already available. We shall give you an explanation of the economic contexts and data asked for after due arrangement.

As far as the disbanding of the Office for National Security and the two offices originally planned are concerned, I refer you to my explanations given in the recent People's Chamber session. According to that there will be no new offices before 6 May. The government will make public statements about the further disbanding of the Office for National Security. Government representatives will explain to you today details which are based on the Council of Ministers' resolutions. I again ask for your cooperation in the civilian supervision of the disbanding of the office mentioned.

I am extremely anxious to see that work on the party law and election law will be acted on rapidly by all the parties concerned. This is one expectation which the citizens of our country have of you and of Parliament and, naturally included in this, of the government.

Proceeding from the main concerns of the government explained here, and from the proposals of the roundtable, government representatives will continue to be available with advice and authority to the roundtable. Faced with the weight and urgency of outstanding problems, I propose that my deputies, Mrs. Luft and Mr. Moreth, the other members of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Meyer, and Mr. Wuensche, as well as myself, be given plenty of opportunity at the roundtable on 22 January to learn your views, to explain our own views and to answer questions. I have come to attend the discussion at the roundtable today in order to make it collectively possible for us to do constructive work on 22 January, so that both sides can create all the preconditions for constructive work at the roundtable on 22 January. These are expectations which we should face collectively before the citizens of our country.

Please let me repeat: It is my particular concern to see that the government, with your support, remains viable, and that the consent given last week by the People's Chamber to government activity and to my government statement remains a sound basis for government work in our country.

Ladies and gentlemen, in accordance with the agenda you will receive the government's report on internal security, given by Minister of Interior Ahrendt, as well as the interim report on progress in disbanding the Office for National Security in the second point of the agenda. In addition, Mr. Manfred Sauer, appointed by me as deputy head of the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers, will speak, because for obvious reasons, first of all, no authorized man has been appointed from Mr. Koch's group. Mr. Peter Steglich, who is already taking part in the discussion today, will take on the responsibility as government representative.

If you permit me, I would like to state the following on the second report: First, the material which you, and through the media, the citizens of our country, will hear about was the subject of several discussions, concluding this weekend in the Council of Ministers. There it was primarily a question of drafting an interim report that considers all justifiable criticism of the insufficient disclosure of the facts which had been made, both here at the roundtable as well as in the People's Chamber. That means that we have struggled with full determination so that an intensive and thorough examination and reappraisal takes place, decisive prerequisites for effective and faster work in the disbanding of the Office for National Security, and in the elimination of the old structures of the former Ministry for State Security.

Second, the government commission was and is being reformed at the same time. It will be given a new head, whom I have already mentioned to you, and it will be strengthened with a competent staff. Through these measures and the setting of precise dates for the next stages of the disbanding of the Office for National Security, it will be possible to complete this process earlier than originally planned. Naturally, we shall keep the roundtable and our citizens always fully informed.

Finally, I want to again affirm my coalition government's willingness to cooperate. Not only should there be closer cooperation between our government representatives and the security working group of the roundtable, but the offer to the participants in the roundtable—and I would like to reiterate that—of participating with immediate effect through civilian supervision in the government work of disbanding the Office for National Security, still stands. We are also prepared, when necessary, to support the security working group of the roundtable through government experts.

And in conclusion: I hope there will be closer government-roundtable cooperation. The issue is not only to overcome the past in this area. The issue is also, and above all, to remove the causes of existing fears once and for all and to create trust in one another. Without this trust in one another, progress on the way to democratic renewal will not be possible. On that, and that is my most ardent wish, there should be agreement not only here at the roundtable, but everywhere in our country.

Bomb Threat Interrupts

LD1501153390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1514 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The roundtable session had to be interrupted this afternoon for a short time because of another bomb threat. The debate continued after the People's Police searched the hall.

Police Change Rules

LD1501135790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1232 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The German People's Police will abolish all military traditions existing in its ranks, Interior Minister Ahrendt said in reply to questions from participants in the roundtable. It is also the intention to abolish military service ranks in the police, and to reintroduce police ranks. The objective is to emphasize the civilian character of the police.

Ahrendt said that the cameras fixed to various building in the capital's center serve exclusively police tasks, and not the supervision of the population.

The interior minister pointed out that in the GDR there are also left-wing extremists, for instance, sympathizers of the RAF [Red Army Faction]. The work of the Interior Minstry is, therefore, directed not only at right-wing extremists.

Roundtable Adjourns

LD1501173290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1659 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The roundtable broke off its discussion late this afternoon and adjourned until 18 January. Representatives of the opposition went immediately to the building of the former Ministry of State Security in Berlin. A crowd had gathered there for a demonstration and participants had forced their way into the building. The roundtable noted this with concern and addressed an urgent appeal to people to stick to the motto practiced to date: no violence!

Arrest Warrant Issued for Hans-Joachim Boehme

LD1501160790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1524 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Halle (ADN)—An arrest warrant for Hans-Joachim Boehme, former first secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Halle Area (bezirk), was issued today. According to the Halle Area Prosecuting Attorney's Office, there are sufficient grounds to suspect the former Politburo member of having carried out, or engineered for his own benefit, dishonest deeds concerning socialist and party property amounting to M 170,000. This included the construction of buildings in a hunting area which he had ordered for his own exclusive use. The investigations by the Prosecuting Attorney's Office have proved to be complicated and protracted because current criminal proceedings against other high-ranking functionaries in Halle Area had to be included and evaluated.

Honecker, Mielke Face Treason Investigation

LD1501143490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1418 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Effective today, criminal proceedings against Honecker and Mielke have been extended, General Prosecuting Attorney Dr Hans-Juergen Joseph announced today to the roundtable. This concerns paragraphs 96 and 107 of the Penal Code, which relate to high treason and unconstitutional association.

Honecker Has 'Genuine Chance' of Recovery

LD1501220190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1935 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—There is a genuine chance of recovery for the patient Honecker, Professor Dr Peter Althaus, director of the Urology Clinic of the Berlin Charite, has stressed in an interview with ADN on the state of health of the former Socialist Unity Party of Germany general secretary. Should the process of recovery continue without complications, Honecker could be released in around 10 days.

According to Prof. Althaus, who carried out the operation on 10 January and who had earlier been released by Erich Honecker from his duty of confidentiality, a tumor 3 centimeters by 4 in the right kidney was removed. The functioning of the left kidney has been severely limited because of large cysts, so that the operation was only to preserve the organ. Microscopic examination showed that the tumor was a malignant one. Professor Althaus stressed that the team of doctors were not surprised by the histology. He stressed that an operation of this type can only be carried out in a special clinic like the Charite. A prison hospital would not have been equipped for this.

Following the operation, the patient Honecker spent 2 days in intensive care, Prof. Althaus said. Erich Honecker is currently on a normal ward in the Charite.

According to Prof. Althaus, the reporting on the patient Honecker by the Western media, bearing in mind the doctor's duty of confidentiality, had not been authorized by anyone.

Modrow Hold Talks with SPD's Vogel

LD1301141390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1309 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—GDR Premier Hans Modrow met Hans-Jochen Vogel, chairman of the SPD [Socialist Democratic Party of Germany] and of the SPD parliamentary group, in Berlin today. The focal point of the exchange of opinions in the "Johannishof" government guesthouse are questions on the relations between the two German states and in particular questions on the planned GDR-FRG treaty-based community.

Cabinet Post Offered

LD1301163590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1559 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—GDR Prime Minister Hans Modrow expressed his readiness to accept the business manager of the SPD [Social Democratic Party] of the GDR, Ibrahim Boehme, into his Cabinet. After his meeting with the chairman of the SPD, Hans-Jochen Vogel, in Berlin on Saturday, Modrow told journalists he offered Boehme the post of GDR deputy environment minister. Representatives of the roundtable are also to belong to the planned economics committee of the government.

Election Conditions Protested

LD1301165290 Hamburg DPA in German 1623 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Bonn (DPA)—SPD [Socialist Democratic Party of Germany] leader Hans-Jochen Vogel asked GDR Prime Minister Hans Modrow's Socialist Unity Party of Germany-Party for Democratic Socialism [SED-PDS] for more equal opportunities for the opposition in the campaign before the elections on 6 May. It is the SPD's impression that these preconditions for a fair election have not yet been met, Vogel told journalists in East Berlin on Saturday after a 2-hour meeting with Modrow. This is especially true of the opportunities for access to the media and the availability of technical equipment. Furthermore, the talk also touched on the return of the SPD's party property which was confiscated by the SED in 1946.

Modrow referred to the announcement by his government to present proposals shortly to improve working conditions for the opposition. No political group, not even the established parties, are satisfied with, for instance, the broadcasting times on radio and television.

Modrow expressed his satisfaction that criticism in the federal republic of his planned Bonn visit had lessened. He has noted with pleasure that even the SPD, after a few "asides," is now unreservedly in favor of the visit. Modrow and Vogel concurred in noting that on the issue of the aimed-at treaty-based community between the GDR and Federal Republic, clarification is still needed as to what it actually means.

The SED politician also said that he agreed to a meeting with Vogel "without reservations." The meeting came about at the initiative of both sides. He had been greatly interested in having the conceptions of the Bonn opposition explained firsthand.

Before his meeting with Vogel, Modrow defended border controls—also with reference to the "frightening" number of deaths caused by drugs in the Federal

Republic. Not least of all, for these reasons a "minimum of controls" by the GDR border authorities should be secured.

Joint News Conference

LD1301203390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1754 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—After their meeting in Berlin today, GDR Prime Minister Hans Modrow and Hans-Jochen Vogel, chairman of the Socialist Democratic Party of Germany [SPD] and the SPD lower house group, met the press in the government guest house, 'Johannishof.' Prior to this, they discussed issues concerning relations between the two German states and especially the envisioned treaty-based community between the GDR and the FRG.

Hans-Jochen Vogel said the talks were very intensive, concrete, and frank. He told the prime minister the Germany policy ideas of his party. Modrow explained the principles which guided his government. The formulations are as yet, however, not specific enough for them to be commented on in detail. Nor is it yet possible in Bonn to discover what is in the agreement on the treaty-based community.

With a view to the elections in the GDR on 6 May, he touched on issues concerning equal opportunities for the new parties and groups, including—above all—the SPD of the GDR. In his opinion, such equality does not yet exist in the media and in the technical conditions. After the talk with Modrow, he understood the special responsibility which is being borne by the prime minister of the GDR, particularly in this phase between the November events and the elections.

Hans Modrow also assessed the meeting as intensive. For him it was important to get to know the ideas of the Social Democrats in the FRG on relations between the two German states. He noted that the idea of a treaty-based community is also thought viable by the Social Democrats. The drafts of the community of treaties will be completed by midweek. If the work of the FRG is also as concrete in nature, then the dates at the beginning of Februry agreed to in Dresden can be adhered to. The chancellor once again affirmed that he will stand by his word. Also the SPD, he had learned, thinks in principle that this meeting in February will be useful and effective.

Hans-Jochen Vogel also went on to say that as SPD chairman he has, of course, touched upon the issue of the SPD party assets as of 1933 and 1945. He also pointed out that representatives of the roundtable should be present at the talks in the FRG. A final assessment of what was envisioned at the talks in Bonn and whether such a negotiating process will be concluded before or after 6 May, depends decisively on what remarks are made at the roundtable and what the final contents of the agreement will be.

Hans Modrow said that his offer to the roundtable in the government statement made in the People's Chamber is unequivocal. A representative of the roundtable can work as a deputy minister at the Environment Ministry, Modrow said, and in this connection he named Ibrahim Boehme of the SPD, with whom, however, he has not yet spoken on the subject. A member of the roundtable working group on the economy can also work on the government's planning committee.

Regarding equal opportunity for the opposition, his government will shortly submit proposals for better working conditions. He understands that no political group, even the established parties, is, for example, satisfied with broadcasting times on radio and television.

The prime minister replied to a further question that he will not be able to take part in the roundtable talks on 15 January because of the New Year reception for the diplomatic corps. However, the government will be represented. His request was for the roundtable to deal on 22 January with the whole complex of all those questions concerning cooperation. The first meeting of the roundtable with the prime minister should not be directed at a partial question but at strategic lines.

Vogel stressed that in several points a link can be made with the former dialogue paper between the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the SPD. This applies to environmental protection and disarmament, and also to the assessment that sharp criticism does not mean interference in internal affairs.

Hans Modrow pointed out that there a concept for the peace question is in the GDR which offers the possibility of keeping the discussion going. He called on the parties of the FRG not to begin their Bundestag election campaign on the territory of the GDR. "The election campaign must take place where one's party has its field of activity," said the GDR prime minister.

Boehme Questions Modrow Offer's Sincerity

LD1401112790 Hamburg DPA in German 0957 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] East Berlin (DPA)—SDP [Social Democratic Party] business manager Ibrahim Boehme has dismissed GDR Premier Hans Modrow's offer to join his Cabinet as deputy environment minister as "not serious." "It is remarkable to hear about such an offer via the media," Boehme said today to DPA in East Berlin. He did not want to speak in more detail about the matter. Yesterday, in front of the press, Modrow suggested Boehme for the post of deputy minister of the environment.

Modrow previously stated that the office of deputy minister of health could also be filled by someone from the opposition. Representatives of the new parties and groups argue that they would not participate in an SED-led [Socialist Unity Party of Germany] government and referred to the 6 May elections. They emphasize that they do not wish to administer a crisis for which they were not responsible.

SPD Forms Joint Committee With FRG Counterpart

LD1301172290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1628 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Johanes Rau, deputy chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD], announced the creation of a joint committee for political issues with representatives of the Social Democratic Parties of the GDR and the FRG. This committee will, as Rau told journalists at the SPD delegates' conference in Berlin today, discuss certain elements of the platform before the elections in the GDR. This includes such areas as the environment, energy, and urban planning.

In addition, a technical committee of both parties will—for its part—make appropriate preparations for the election. Rau added that the joint committee has "a full working program" for the immediate future. He and other members of the executive of the Bonn SPD will be in the GDR often in the coming weeks.

Social Democrat Delegates Conference Opens

LD1201215390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1851 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—The first national delegates' conference of the Social Democrat Party in the GDR [SDP] opened this evening in Berlin. During the 3-day meeting, the approximately 400 delegates, who represent about 32,000 members, will discuss the party's program and statute, which will again be under debate at the first full party congress from 22 to 26 February in Leipzig. The delegates' conference will also deal with finance questions and election manifestos as well as come to a decision about a renaming to "SPD". [passage omitted]

'Main Goal' Outlined

LD1301115790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1021 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The first national delegates' conference of the Social Democratic Party of the GDR (SDP), which started last night, continued this morning with a report from the executive. Angelika Barbe, second spokeswoman of the SDP, stated that since the Wall was built hardly a hint of democracy has been felt in the GDR. The basic idea of democracy has always been alive but now democratic action has to be learned.

Angelika Barbe recalled the complicated conditions under which the party was founded on 7 October last year. As before, there is a multitude of problems to be solved, above all in the organizational sphere. The number of office rooms and telephones is completely insufficient. The spokeswoman referred to the multifarious activities of party members in various investigative committees and working groups, including the roundtable. Although the SDP is now no longer a small party, it still has only a minimum number of staff.

The first SDP spokesman, Stephan Hilsberg, said that the main goal in the SDP election campaign is to deprive the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] of power. On this they are in agreement with all the opposition forces. This is also linked with the declaration not to enter into a coalition with the SED. The people in the GDR can depend on that. If the name is changed to "SPD" [Socialist Party of Germany] the party will demand that the SED-PDS [Party for Democratic Socialism] return the assets from the former SPD.

Hilsberg expressed his thanks for the good relations with the SPD, which will develop effectively and on a wide scale. His party "knows how to estimate highly the value of support for structuring and in the current elections campaign." The basis of their relations is however the independence of the two parties. In this context, he also recalled the beginnings of their relations with the Social Democratic parliamentary group in the European Parliament. With reference to German unity, he stated that this can only be formed in the European dimension. The growing hostility to foreigners, which "is encouraged" in the GDR "by the administrative measures of the ruling government," fills the party with deep concern.

On the subject of strategy in the election campaign, Hilsberg said that one has to gain members and voters at the same time. He said further that support for the formation of new trades unions—for example the "Reform" trades union in Teltow, which was expected to trigger an "epidemic," failed because the workers wanted the old trades unions to be reformed. The accusation that SDP executive members are present too often in Western media can be refuted by saying that they get too little chance to speak in the GDR media.

Party Name Changed

LD1301143190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1411 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The Social Democratic Party in the GDR (SDP) was renamed the "SPD" at its first national delegates' conference in Berlin today.

Full Name Decided

LD1301164990 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1556 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The participants in the national delegates' conference of the Social Democrats of the GDR in Berlin on Saturday adopted the proposal of the party executive with one vote against and eight abstentions that the long version of the previously agreed abbreviation of the new party name "SPD" should be "Social Democratic Party of Germany."

The party, which was founded in the GDR on 7 October last year, has up to now been abbreviated as SDP, with the full name of Social Democratic Party.

Democratic Awakening Officials Resign

LD1401212390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2052 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—First Deputy Chairwoman Sonja Schroeter and press spokeswoman Christiane Ziller notified the Executive of Democratic Awakening on 14 January of their resignation from office, and their simultaneous withdrawal from the party, according to a press statement handed to ADN today. The reasons given for this step were irreconcilable objective and personal differences.

Marxist Party To Hold Founding Congress

LD1201135790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1313 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The members of a new Marxist party organizing its founding congress tomorrow in Berlin, advocate a socialist development path in the GDR.

Michael Czollek, spokesman of the founding group "The Carnations," told ADN that previous social models in the GDR and East European countries do not deserve the name of socialism, but are rather likely to discredit it. A genuine democracy must be built up by thinking back to the roots of Marxism.

A focal point now is the swift formation of workers' councils as a precondition for preventing the sellout of the GDR and for administering property in a truly social manner. Michael Czollek advocated an extension of legislative power. To give deputies new possibilities for representing citizens' interests, professional parliaments with extended rights were conceivable. The period of office of the deputies must, however, be limited to two electoral terms.

'Carnations' Meet

LD1301115490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1056 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—Brigitte Kahnwald, member of the founding group of the "Carnations," has described it as an urgent necessity to organize Marxist forces in the GDR. The aim is to raise the interests of the workers into political demands, she said today at the founding congress of the "Carnations" in Berlin. The new Marxist party intends to participate in the elections on 6 May.

Brigitte Kahnwald, who gave a brief report on the work of the founding group, named three main sources for the flood of members joining the "Carnations": former SED [Socialist Unity Party of Germany] or SED-PDS [Party of Democratic Socialism] members, who resigned or were expelled from the party; as yet unorganized citizens; and citizens who are still SED-PDS members. [passage omitted]

SED-PDS Supports Free, Fair Elections

LD1201145890 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1407 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The Presidium of the SED-PDS [Socialist Unity Party of Germany-Party of Democratic Socialism] party executive has reached understanding on the principles of a new electoral law and has spoken in favor of free, universal, fair, direct, and secret elections. This emerges from a communication sent to ADN today. It also says that every elector must be able to decide, above all, between parties and programs.

The SED-PDS is in favor of giving the right of putting forward candidates exclusively to parties. They have programs, statutes, and clear structures. At the same time, the idea was ruled out that a party should have further mandates over other organizations, as was possible in the past.

The standpoint is taken that proportional representation should be applied, since it is the fairest system and corresponds to German democratic traditions. There should be no use of blocking clauses.

The SED-PDS calls for a fair election campaign and advocates the conclusion of an agreement on this between all parties involved. Electoral alliances should be allowed, in order to give a chance to smaller parties also.

The Presidium of the party executive is opposed to a ban on material and financial support from abroad, in order to make possible a greater equality of opportunity for new parties in particular.

State Prosecutor Examines Electoral Fraud

LD1201224790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2053 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—In conjunction with the criminal police, the State Prosecutor's Office is currently examining 104 reports and information of electoral fraud during the local elections in 1989. It emerges from information given to ADN today that all the warnings that came in immediately after the elections and which had at that time not been investigated properly will also be examined. A working group for this purpose was formed in December 1989 at the State Prosecutor's Office.

So far, the strong suspicion of electoral fraud has been confirmed in seven cases, with the result that preliminary proceedings have been instituted. The working group confirms that up to December 1989 no checks were made on such reports, or, if so, then only superficial ones. Instead references were made to the final and published election results.

In the meantime, all instructions which impede proper dealing with these reports have been lifted. In addition, investigations are being made to see who bears responsibility for the illegal statements.

Law on Amending Constitution Adopted

LD1201144790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1403 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—The GDR People's Chamber today endorsed the law on amending and supplementing the Constitution. The decision was made without opposing votes and with two abstentions. The law legitimizes the establishment of firms with foreign participation in the GDR.

Earlier, Deputy Prime Minister Professor Dr Christa Luft again made a statement on the law, and also announced that the government will pass a decree on the establishment and activity of joint ventures on 25 January. Corresponding legislation is to be drafted by October. The GDR's legal system applies in principle to enterprises with foreign capital, said Prof Luft. [passage omitted]

Spokesman Discusses People's Chamber Session

LD1301145590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1405 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The most recent People's Chamber session was of fundamental significance for the further work of the GDR Government, in particular in relation to continuing the democratization process in the country. This morning, government spokesman Wolfgang Meyer gave a briefing in Berlin at a news conference on the Council of Ministers session.

Premier Hans Modrow has called on the Cabinet to take into consideration all proposals and critical remarks in their further work. Determined work is needed to overcome old structures. The government spokesman quoted the premier as saying that wherever the brakes are being still applied they have to be released. People who can support and implement renewal should get a look in everywhere. The democratic process of renewal in the GDR can only be continued if there is no violence or a reduction in the production process. Such manifestations would, above all, have negative repercussions on the situation of the workers and on the continuation of the democratization process. In this respect, there should also be complete agreement at the roundtable.

Cabinet Sequesters Security Documents

LD1201194490 Budapest MTI in English 1614 GMT 12 Jan 90

["Statement by Council of Ministers' Cabinet"—MTI headline]

[Text] Budapest, January 12 (MTI)—In its Friday session, the Cabinet of the Hungarian Council of Ministers heard reports by the minister of the interior and the chief public prosecutor on the investigation concerning state security activity and surveyed the forthcoming tasks.

The Cabinet decided to ban the application of secret means and methods by the division of internal counterintelligence, and sequestrate all documents produced in the recent period.

The Cabinet instructed the minister of the interior to present to the January 18 government session a proposal for changing the content, organization and legal regulations of state security activity, and for the required personnel changes.

Demonstrators Protest State Security Violations

LD1201231590 Budapest MTI in English 2154 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 12 (MTI)—A demonstration was held on Friday by the National Smallholders Party in front of the building of the State Security, part of the Ministry of Interior. In their petition, organisers demanded the immediate resignation of Istvan Horvath, minister of interior.

Another demonstration held at Gyor (NW Hungary) to protest against the unconstitutional activity of the State Security, was oganised by the local group of the Alliance of Free Democrats. The rally held in front of the local police headquartes was joined by the Hungarian Democratic Forum as well. Speakers at this demonstration also urged the resignation by the interior minister and demanded the expansion of related investigations to Gyor-Sopron County as well.

Demonstrators gathering in front of the police headquarters of Kecskemet (S Hungary) expressed their conviction that the majority of the police force distances itself from such activity, violating both personal and citizens rights.

Reports on demonstrations have arrived from Eger, Szeged and Bekescsaba as well.

Budapest, Bekes Protests Against Price Hikes

LD1501200790 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Summary] [Announcer] Peter Szorenyi reports from Heroes' Square in Budapest.

[Begin recording] [Szorenyi] Minister, how much money do you have for shopping? Placards with this and similar inscriptions were raised high by the demonstrators in Heroes' Square. The 3,000 or so people listened first of all to Istvan Csurka [dramatist and member of the Hungarian Democratic Forum Presidium]. He said that, yes, people do have the right to a life more worthy of a human being, and that the measures taken by the government serve only to increase poverty.

After the speech lasting a few minutes, the crowd set off toward parliament house. Here they will hand over a petition addressed to Premier Miklos Nemeth. In this they demand an immediate halt to the price rises and the naming of those responsible. They urge that reprivatization receive maximum social supervision, and also they consider the immediate halting of major investments necessary.

A few people in the crowd also mentioned that those who still favor hoarding and amassing private wealth should be immediately removed from their positions. The demonstration is still in progress outside parliament house.

[Announcer] Outside the Bekes County council headquarters in Bekescsaba this evening young and old alike demonstrated against the price rises, the rent increases, and the low pensions. Eva Cseh reports:

[Cseh] The protest took place at the initiative of the Hungarian Democratic Forum (MDF). Tempers were also inflamed by the appearance in the local paper today of a statement by the Bekescsaba organization of the Socialist Party which described today's demonstration as social demagogy and as discrediting the government and the Socialist Party. People of Bekescsaba, the statement read, don't let yourselves be misled. The same thing was said at the demonstration by the MDF's spokesman as well. However, the protesters were not concerned with the party battles. What they shouted was: We want the same pension as the leaders get! Let them live off the same wages as we do!

The MDF demanded the abolition of subsidies for the major unprofitable enterprises, an equitable pension system, and the appointment of suitable leaders as heads of individual enterprises. [end recording]

Protesters Demands Reported

LD1501224190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Excerpts] [Presenter] The Zuglo [Budapest's 14th district] organization of the Hungarian Democratic Forum [MDF] held a demonstration against the price hikes and reprivatization. Peter Szorenyi reports:

[Szorenyi] [Passage omitted] The avowed aim of the demonstration planned to take place on Heroes' Square and outside the parliament house was to protest against the price hikes and the irresponsible reprivatization.

However, as the crowd of some 2,000 arrived in front of the parliament house, it was chanting somewhat more radical slogans as well:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speakers] [Words indistinct] We have had enough! We have had enough! Russians go home! Russians go home! Russians go home! Pay for the damage, Communist Party! Pay for the damage, Communist Party! [end recording]

[Szorenyi] The document having been handed over to the competent persons in the parliament house, the by now dwindling troop of people marched to the Television building in order to list their demands there as well. [passage omitted]

Japan's Kaifu Makes Official Visit

Welcomed by Nemeth

LD1501201190 Budapest MTI in English 1829 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 15 (MTI)—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, accompanied by his wife and daughter, arrived on an official visit to Budapest on Monday.

Mr Kaifu's entourage includes Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama.

The Japanese prime minister and his wife were welcomed at Ferihegy Airport by Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth and his wife.

Nemeth, Kaifu Dinner Toasts

LD1501223890 Budapest MTI in English 2147 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 15 (MTI)—Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth and his wife hosted a gala dinner in honour of Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and his wife in Budapest's parliament on Monday evening.

The two heads of government raised toasts.

Miklos Nemeth pointed out that although the relations between the two countries are favourable with 120 years of diplomatic links, this is the first time for a Japanese prime minister to visit Hungary. Japanese industriousness and high level of organization is regarded as an example in Hungary. We take pride in Hungary's marching in the vanguard of the historic changes of our days, Mr Nemeth said. The changes in Hungary are irreversible. Hungarian society wants to see the continuation of peaceful transition which also enjoys a favourable external environment.

Mr Nemeth said, "I have to note that the fair development of Hungary's home political situation is accompanied by economic difficulties. Resolving the economic problems poses a hard trial and requires sacrifices from citizens. The country relies on international support. We would like Japan to accept a role in Hungary commensurate to its international political, economic and financial weight and to actively support our endeavours. I sincerely hope that the present visit will pave the way for an era of unprecendented diversity in the cooperation between the two countries, Mr Nemeth said. [no closing quotation mark as received]

Toshiki Kaifu stressed that the East European changes which took a dramatic turn in the second half of last year are not only events of regional importance but also have an effect on East-West relations as a whole. The Berlin Wall, a cold-war symbol, came down last November and a month later Ceausescu's dictatorial regime was also overthrown.

I believe, Mr Kaifu said, these dramatic changes were brought about by the vast power of the people.

Mr Kaifu said he was of the opinion that the Hungarian changes had strongly influenced the other countries in the region as well. Hungary, he said, is a pioneer of reform in the literal sense of the word.

Japan is an active participant in the international actions designed to support Hungary. I am convinced, Mr Kaifu said in conclusion, that these days see the opening of new vistas in the two countries' relations.

Kiraly Statement on Romania's Urgent Tasks

LD1401210390 Budapest MTI in English 1946 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 145 (MTI)—In the wake of the recent demonstrations in Romania, Karoly Kiraly, deputy president of the National Salvation Front Council (NSFC) of Romania who is receiving medical treatment in Hungary, has forwarded a statement to the Hungarian news agency (MTI) on the most urgent tasks faced by Romania.

Mr Kiraly considers it necessary to hold the elections in April so that the country should be led, as soon as possible, by a government enjoying the confidence of the people. The presidential elections should be convened for a later date but the Securitate should be dissolved and the police reorganized by the end of January, the statement says.

Mr Kiraly holds it necessary to intern and bring to trial the members of the Political Executive Committee of the former Communist Party and the first secretaries and secretaries of the county party committees.

The NSFC deputy president proposed that the management of all enterprises should be reelected in Romania. The NSFC members should be reelected by the Bucharest and county committes in a way that each member should enjoy the confidence of at least 10,000 voters. Mr Kiraly holds it necessary that the NSFC should not take part in the April elections.

The provisional government should provide the population with an adequate amount of food, energy, clothes and fuel, runs the statement. In conclusion, Mr Kiraly says, personally I have full confidence in President Ion Iliescu, who is an honest, highly qualified personality with a European way of thinking, a politician loyal to the people. In the period of transition, he can guarantee the reconstruction of the country and the maintenance of international relations. I ask my countrymen to support, and have full confidence in, the president. He must enjoy the confidence of all of us since it is the guarantee of the proper operation of the National Salvation Front Council.

Karpati Addresses Army on Efforts for Romania

LD1301114090 Budapest MTI in English 1740 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 12 (MTI)—Hungarian officers and civilian personnel of the Army, who performed their duties in an outstanding way during the Romanian revolution, were greeted at a celebration held at the Ministry of Defence on Friday.

In the orders issued on the occasion by Ferenc Karpati, minister of defence, said among others: "Events in Romania have been followed with exceptional sympathy by Hungarians, who gave not only their true moral support but material help to the fraternal peoples of Romania, fighting for a just cause. Soldiers have been fulfilling their service in an exemplary way during these days, and they were ready to defend the country against any possible terrorist attacks even in those confusing days.

The Hungarian People's Army forwarded by road 81 tonnes of foodstuffs to Arad (a town lying near the Romanian border) and an additional 6 tonnes of foodstuffs were airfreighted to Bucharest, with another 94 tonnes freighted by rail to Cluj-Napoca. Furthermore, 67 tonnes of foodstuffs and various medical appliances were transported by Romanian military planes to Timisoara and Bucharest.

In the meantime, the direction of the Army personnel was performed by a small group of commanders at the Ministry of Defence, who also participated in organising relief supplies.

The interim president of the Hungarian Republic awarded the Order of the Star decorated with swords, to Colonel Gyorgy Keleti, spokesman of the Ministry of Defence for his outstanding performance. The minister of defence gave decorations and promotions to 36 persons of the Army and to another five persons, the staff of other organs having partaken in the tasks."

Reporter on Anti-Magyar Acts in Romania

LD1201225890 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] [Announcer] Our reporter, Csaba Bojte, returned from Transylvania yesterday. I asked him how genuine the anti-Magyar sentiment is there.

[Begin recording] [Bojte] During the first days of the revolution, when the people fought in unity against the dictatorship, an unprecedented brotherhood could be observed. As this euphoria has passed and certain everyday problems have begun to emerge, the old strains, the traces of the nationalism incited by Ceausescu have begun to reappear. This is not a phenomenon which can be generalized, but very many small signs indicate that nationalism is not definitely a part of the past. Thus, the revolution only eliminated it temporarily.

Just one small example of what such an antinationality action can stem from, and what it can deteriorate into. For example, the Norwegians sent two consignments to Cluj. One was sent to the Unitarian Church; it contained technical equipment. The other was sent to Doina Cornea; this also contained technical equipment—typewriters, photocopiers. The one intended for Doina Cornea was received by the Unitarian Church. It was immediately distributed. Some was given to editorial staffs, to organizations which were being formed. At this point, Doina Cornea appeared and demanded to know what had been sent for her. However, by this time it had been distributed. The following day a Romanian paper reported that the Magyars had stolen the consignment intended for the Romanians.

[Announcer] Which newspaper was this?

[Bojte] It was the newspaper ADEVARUL LIBERTATE, that is, TRUTH IN FREEDOM. And a very protracted and unpleasant process of clarification followed. There were accusations and meetings to discuss the matter.

[Announcer] Did it ever emerge what had really happened?

[Bojte] What had happened emerged. Doina Cornea was given the equipment; it was gathered together for her. Yet the 3 days during which all this was taking place were enough to arouse the old suspicion, the old reflexes in people.

The other thing which is very, very alarming is that the report has spread throughout the country that Romanians are being killed in the Szekler region. The truth is that policemen were killed in several Szekler towns, in Cristuru Sacuiesc, in Odorheiu Secuiesc, and in villages, such as for example, Praid. That is a fact. In Cristuru Sacuiesc, five policemen—policemen and Securitate men—were killed. Three of them were Magyar and two were Romanian. But the news spread that policemen were being killed, that Romanians were being killed. The strange thing is that atrocities of the same type took place in Romanian towns, too; for example, in (Cujirant), where the policemen were (?treated) in a bestial manner: They were stripped naked, and things which an angry crowd does with a policeman were done. However, news of this did not spread throughout the country.

An enormous responsibility in this burdens the press. However, there is no contact between the Magyar and Romanian media, including radio and television, so much so that they are not trying jointly to resolve the nationality tensions which are emerging.

[Announcer] So the question is whether this is something which is intended and directed, or whether it is a matter simply of the old reflexes functioning.

[Bojte] It could be intentional. Since a large sector of the Securitate has remained, it has been transferred to the military's jurisdiction, and most Securitate men have jobs and are doing the same work as they did earlier. It is conceivable that the reports originate from them, but it is also conceivable that an old Romanian fear has again found its mark. [end recording]

Horn Speaks on RSA, Israel, Warsaw Pact

LD1301211190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1500 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Interview with Foreign Minister Gyula Horn by Peter Zentai; date and place not given; on the "168 Hours" program—recorded]

[Text] [Zentai] To be frank, I would not be surprised if I had read in today's papers that not Hungary, but Gyula Horn was recommended by a West German entrepreneur for the Nobel Peace Prize. I say this, because I was fortunate enough to attend the news conferences of Hungary's prestigous guests recently.

Last time when the South African foreign minister was here, he mentioned your name four times within 20 minutes, Genscher's twice, and Chancellor Kohl's three times. Do you accept what these politicians say, that is that you, personally, have an independent foreign policy, or is it team work, government work in your view? I have the feeling that the former is true.

[Horn] But my initiatives and steps could not materialize in practice if the head of government, or the government, or the cabinet did not stand behind them.

[Zentai] So, you put a paper on the desk which says that it would be worth inviting the South African foreign minister now, and they sign this saying that it is okay.

[Horn] Oh, no, this is not how things happen. The South African foreign minister has been negotiating for 3 months to meet us. So then I consulted the prime minister about this; I did not present this to a government meeting, because it was not necessary. He agreed with me, and on the basis of this we made steps and arranged the meeting.

[Zentai] In cases like this, to what extent do you take it into consideration that protests or perhaps even terrorist actions can occur?

[Horn] We were expecting protests. During the 3 months mentioned, we weighed up the possible consequences. I read the press reactions. The countries concerned, that were to date in contact with the South African Republic, evaluated this step very positively, including several African countries.

At the same time exaggarating statements and news were also published, which have nothing to do with reality; for example, that we would have carried out talks on some sort of military cooperation. Nothing like this was even mentioned. Or that we offered Hungarian labor to be employed in the South African Republic; no, this was not brought up at all.

[Zentai] But the South African foreign minister said in reply to a question—I was there—that they would welcome Hungarian labor in South Africa.

[Horn] It is possible that this is his intention or his endeavor, but that is a different matter and it was not discussed during the talks.

[Zentai] All right, I believe you; this is obviously so. You have just visited Israel where you made statements which, so to speak, caused indignation in the Arab world. Namely that Hungary has reevaluated its Middle Eastern policy and we see Zionism quite differently now than we saw it earlier. Is it you, Gyula Horn, who sees it differently or the Hungarian Government? I did not feel that your formulation was subtle enough.

[Horn] This means that earlier, Hungarian foreign policy was rigidly rejective vis-a-vis the Israeli stance. It was not willing to acknowledge the historic facts which came about, which surfaced since 1967, the fact that they had no relation whatsoever with Israel.

In my view, this seclusion caused severe damage not only to us and not only to Hungary, but generally to the Warsaw Pact member states;

Well, regarding the question of Zionism, we have to begin an objective and impartial evaluation of Zionism. As to what sort of consequences this evaluation will lead, this is still an open question. And I have established a small, separate committee of experts, or rather I have asked the people knowledgeable in this field to start this investigation.

[Zentai] Not long ago an Arab ambassador said the following: Hungarian politics and especially the Hungarian press, with the ulterior motive of obtaining the support of the capitalist circles under Zionist influence for Hungarian economic development, practically lay down before these circles. Moreover, this diplomat very openly, in front of the radio's microphone, hinted at the fact that the Hungarian press also came under Zionist influence. What would have been your reply to this?

[Horn] I would have said that it is a vital need of this small open country that it open relations with every country, and mainly with the economically developed countries which have weight and influence in the world, and that these relations be utilized to the fullest for its own advantage. These are the facts of the matter. And this goes for South Africa, the Arab world, South Korea, and many others. For years and decades propaganda elements have dominated through which reality was falsified.

[Zentai] So the Hungarian public was actually informed falsely either about the situation evolving in the Middle East or in the southern region of Africa.

[Horn] That's right, I agree. It was very one-sided, and this was done mainly on the basis of certain fixed ideological and political viewpoints. The Hungarian public and that of the other Warsaw Pact member states were misinformed.

[Zentai] Yesterday, Rezso Nyers said that we are not, I quote: part of the Soviet bloc any more. What is your opinion about this?

[Horn] In our country, the multiparty system is already a practice, whereas there the one-party system is still being insisted upon. Transition to the social market economy was proclaimed in every country without exception in Middle and Eastern Europe, while in the Soviet Union there has been no mention of introducing the market economy, and so forth. This naturally means a new situation.

I believe that the Warsaw Pact does not have to coordinate its member states' foreign political activity. The Warsaw Pact basically should deal with the questions of an indispensible minimal joint defense force; this should be one of its tasks.

[Zentai] But from whom should we defend ourselves?

[Horn] Well, for the time being, a joint defense force exists, hopefully with quite a different structure and much less extent than to date.

[Zentai] But let me say something astonishing: I have the feeling that there is only one thing which threatens Hungary at the moment. And this is that if in the Soviet Union such chaos and anarchy comes about that it cannot be contained within the Soviet Union's present borders.

[Horn] What you are saying has to be taken into consideration by all means, although, in this respect, I am an optimist.

Whatever may take place in the Soviet Union, the processes taking place here cannot be reversed by anybody anymore, not by any single outside factor.

[Zentai] But if a house is on fire near our borders, that will affect us, too.

[Horn] Of course, but if the house is on fire outside our borders, the task of extinguishing the fire belongs to the people of the given country.

[Zentai] So won't the Warsaw Pact fall to pieces quite quickly, too?

[Horn] In my view, a very close relation has to be developed with NATO. That can mean that we will eliminate or reduce to a minimum the feeling of mutual threats because this still exists. And we can only do this if we establish joint institutions, develop close cooperation with the other alliance system, and this can lead to dissolving the two military alliance systems. This is fundamentally our goal because with this the neutrality of Hungary can be obtained, too.

CSSR's Dienstbier Begins Working Visit

Arrival Noted

LD1201194190 Budapest MTI in English 1453 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, January 12 (MTI)—Jiri Dienstbier, Czechoslovak foreign minister, arrived in Hungary on a working visit on Friday at the invitation of his counterpart Gyula Horn.

Mr Dienstbier held talks with Foreign Minister Gyula Horn, and is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth sometime later this afternoon.

Discusses Relations With Horn

LD1201194790 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] The stances of the Hungarian and the new Czechoslovak political leaderships are coming nearer to each other, even in questions that are still disputed. According to MTI, this was discussed at the Budapest talks between the Hungarian and Czechoslovak foreign ministers.

Jiri Dienstbier's statements could lead us to believe that the parties can come to an agreement, for example, on the question of Bos-Nagymaros, too, since the present Czechoslovak Government does not identify itself with the giganto-maniacal concept of its predecessor. Hungary requires modification of the intergovernmental agreement in the future, too, and for this a good basis was provided by the Czechoslovak Government's move to cancel the preparations for diverting the Danube. At their talks they agreed that there is no obstacle to satisfying the nationalities' just demands. The Hungarian foreign minister again urged the preparation of a joint government statement about this. Gyula Horn promised that Hungary will make the documents in connection with the 1968 events accessible for Czechoslovak researchers. The Hungarian foreign minister confirmed the invitation of Matyas Szuros, provisional president of the republic, according to which we would like to welcome Vaclav Havel, Czechoslovak head of state in our country at the end of the month.

Talks Termed 'Open,' 'Honest'

LD1201195690 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier has arrived in the Hungarian Republic on a 2-day visit. Our correspondent Tomas Borec reports from Budapest:

Jiri Dienstbier held talks today with Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn, and early this evening he was received by Hungarian Premier Miklos Nemeth.

Lubos Dobrovsky, press spoksman for the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, told Czechoslovak newsmen that they were working talks, which were very open and honest, consistent with the new situation which has arisen in the development of Czechoslovak-Hungarian relations. The two foreign ministers drew up an inventory of matters which will have to be resolved and proposed that a coordinating commission be set up for this. On this list of problems are not ony the issues of Gabcikovo-Nagymaros and the national minorities' cultural and linguistic development, but also questions of the tourist exchange rate, economic cooperation, and the revision of certain interstate agreements. In the political sphere they spoke about their mutual standpoints on the situation in Europe and about their relations with third countries and organizations such as the Warsaw Pact, CEMA, the EEC, and NATO.

Jiri Dienstbier pointed out that Czechoslovakia would adhere to its undertakings in the Warsaw Pact, but like Hungary, it would work for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the country.

The Czechoslovak foreign minister's visit to Hungary continues tomorrow.

Dienstbier Views Talks

LD1201210990 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1830 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] [Announcer] Following his talks in Warsaw, the Czechoslovak foreign minister is now holding talks in Budapest. (Szabolcs Zentay) reports:

[(Zentay)] The subjects at the talks were the Bos-Nagymaros [dam] and the development of cooperation. Dienstbier agreed, first with Foreign Minister Gyula Horn then with Premier Miklos Nemeth, that now, when democratic structures have developed in both the Czechoslovak and the Hungarian leadership, the differences which had developed earlier can be settled. The foreign minister from Prague said that the conditions of the agreement relating to Bos-Nagymaros can be renegotiated.

The end of the earlier bureaucratic obstacles also brings an opportunity to improve the situation of the Magyar minority living in Slovakia, and that of the Slovaks living in Hungary.

In reply to my question, Mr Dienstbier also said that at their talks they discussed the Hungarian proposal for the creation of a Hungarian-Polish-Czechoslovak integration within CEMA. He said that, in his opinion, it is not new blocs which need to be created but rather real action is needed. As he said, it follows from our geographical position, the fact that we are neighbors, that our opportunities for improving cooperation are excellent. And he said that Czechoslovakia is in favor of developing relations.

Joint Commissions Formed

LD1301002190 Prague CTK in English 2007 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest Jan 12 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier and his Hungarian colleague Gyula Horn met here today for talks.

In the political sphere, they expressed identity of views and the two countries interest to return back to Europe. The new situation has been created for further development of Czechoslovak-Hungarian relations which will make it possible to tackle problems which have accumulated due to certain different views between the policy of Hungary which set on the path of democracy substantially earlier and the policy of Czechoslovakia.

The ministers agreed on the formation of a commission which will coordinate the work of experts of individual ministries dealing with economic and financial affairs. Also formed will be another commission which will check on some agreements between the two states which are of special significance for further development of relations.

As regards the construction of the Gabcikovo-Nagymaros power stations system, the Czechoslovak side pointed to material and financial means which have already been spent on the project and stressed that it would be desirable that they bring some profit.

Jiri Dienstbier and Gyula Horn assumed stands on the participation in international organizations, mainly in the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and the Warsaw Treaty as well as on the establishment of contacts with West European integrations.

The Czechoslovak minister pointed to the obligations of Czechoslovakia to the Warsaw Treaty and reiterated the stand of the Czechoslovak foreign policy that Czechoslovakia does not want to withdraw from this organization and wants to respect its commitments.

The two ministers assumed an identical stand on the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungarian and Czechoslovak territories.

Dienstbier Meets Opposition Groups

LD1201231190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Excerpts] Our correspondent Szabolcs Udvarhelyi was invited to the informal dinner at which [Jiri Dienstbier] the leader of Czechoslovak foreign affairs, met representatives of the Hungarian opposition.

[Udvarhelyi] [Passage omitted] The meeting between Jiri Dienstbier and representatives of some Hungarian opposition parties took place in Gyorgy Varga's apartment. Varga, who was the host, is the translator for Bohumil Hrabal and Vaclav Havel, the present Czechoslovak president of the republic. Although the foreign minister would have liked to hear mainly about the Hungarian multiparty system, representatives of the Hungarian Democratic Forum Federation of Young Democrats, the Alliance of Free Democrats, and the Hungarian Social Democratic Party, at least while I was there, asked him about Czechoslovakia.

We are at the beginning of it all, Dienstbier said. Do not forget that the government was only formed 1 month ago. There is no party law yet, there is no new election law yet. Moreover, unlike Hungary, there are not really any new parties either, and the old ones are searching for their own places under the changed circumstances. The situation is without doubt peculiar in Czechoslovakia, for in practice there is no political opposition. The Civic Forum's nominee is the head of state; representatives of all significant political forces are present in the government. Everything will be decided at the elections planned for June, the foreign minister forecast.

The Civic Forum does not wish to become a party in the future, though it will support candidates. At any rate, the Civic Forum has a difficult task, because for the moment it cannot promise an economic upsurge, only civic and human freedom rights, and many people are more interested in the price of bread than freedom of speech, Dienstbier added.

Horn, Dienstbier on Warsaw Pact Changes

LD1301123590 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1130 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] [Announcer] The Czechoslovak foreign minister has been holding talks in our homeland since yesterday. After the meeting held today with his Hungarian colleague, the press was briefed in the Foreign Ministry. Istvan Szello reports.

[Szello] As a consequence of the processes underway in the two countries, a new relationship is beginning between Czechoslovakia and our homeland, said Gyula Horn at the beginning of the briefing. At the same time, he announced that the present talks had formed worthy preparation for the visit of Vaclav Havel, president of the Republic at the end of January.

At the talks they also discussed our economic contacts. The Hungarian foreign minister requested the abolition of the measures brought against tourists, for example, the gasoline coupon system.

As Gyula Horn said, more than a few words were spoken on the Bos- Nagymaros dam, and the Czechoslovaks promised to halt the Danube's diversion and to hold further talks with the Hungarian side about amending the contract. Speaking about the nationality policy, the Hungarian foreign minister said the nationalities' demands must always be the starting point.

During the talks, the missing elements of our common historical past were also discussed. We will put documents connected with 1968 at Czechoslovakia's disposal; and they will do the same regarding 1956.

The two countries' leading diplomats agreed that the Warsaw Pact Organization must be modernized without delay.

Following this, the two foreign ministers answered questions from journalists. Jiri Dienstbier said that he comes across such absurdities in his country daily, which only a crazy regime could have introduced. For example, it is high time that we gave a democratic content to relations between the Czechs and the Slovaks, which are not too rosy, emphasized the Czechoslovak foreign minister who, with his university degree, was until 1 month ago a furnace man.

[Announcer] The Hungarian and Czechoslovak foreign ministers have ceremonially exchanged the ratification document of the bilateral agreement which regulates legal assistance and relations in civil law, family law, and penal matters.

Dienstbier Hopes To Resolve Issues

LD1401122190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1100 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] The Czechoslovak foreign minister hopes his country and Hungary will be able to solve both the problem of the Bos-Nagymaros dam and the nationalities problem.

Jiri Dienstbier said at his Budapest talks that an agreement was reached regarding the reexamination of the original contract drawn up about the dam. The Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry spokesman also informed the press that Dienstbier is taking a letter on the project's future from Miklos Nemeth to the Czechoslovak head of government, Marian Calfa.

The spokesman said the Hungarian party, as a compromise solution, has more or less accepted that Czechoslovakia will have to pay much more attention to the support of Slovaks in Hungary and to their social problems. The Czechoslovak foreign minister, summing up his Warsaw and Budapest visits, said cooperation with Hungary and Poland is very important in every field but has to be based on market principles.

Environmentalists Appeal to Havel, Dienstbier

LD1201211490 Budapest MTI in English 2002 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Budapest, Janaury 12 (MTI)—An open letter was addressed by a group of Hungarian environment protection activists to CSSR President Vaclav Havel and CSSR Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier regarding the Gabcikovo-Nagymaros barrage project.

In the letter, activists express their hope that the next stage of the discussions on the barrage project will take place between the delegations of the two countries' newly elected governments. In this way there is a chance that scientists, experts and environment protection activists—who were so far silenced—will now also come to word [as received].

The letter also mentions the European significance of the potable water reserves to be found beneath the vast area (in nw Hungary) which is to be affected by the envisaged barrage, and refers to the environmental importance of the Slovakian stretch of the Danube, also under international protection. Furthermore, the letter raises the possibility of creating an international nature reserve in the area bordered by the towns of Vienna, Bratislava (of Czechoslovakia) and Gyor (nw Hungary).

Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu Visits

Arrives in Warsaw

LD1401153290 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1500 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, along with his wife, have arrived in Warsaw on an official visit. Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki, along with members of the government and Sejm and Senate representatives, met the Japanese guests at the Warsaw Okecie Airport. A meeting of both the leaders has taken place. They are now chairing Polish-Japanese plenary talks. In the evening, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu will meet Lech Walesa, the Independent Self- Governing Trade Union Solidarity chairman.

To Discuss Aid

OW1401145390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1407 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 14 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu arrived in Warsaw on Sunday on his first visit to Eastern Europe for talks on 1 billion dollars in aid pledged by Tokyo to help revitalize Poland's troubled economy.

Kaifu is to explain the aid package to Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki in a two-hour meeting scheduled for later in the day.

The two leaders are also scheduled to discuss restrictions imposed by the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (COCOM), which limits technology exports to Eastern-bloc nations, and possible inclusion of Poland on a list of nations eligible for economic assistance from Western donors, Japanese sources said.

Kaifu wants to ease regulations imposed by Western nations on high-tech exports to Poland and Hungary, the sources said.

Included in Kaifu's aid package are a 150 million dollar loan to a fund to help stabilize Poland's economy, and 500 million dollars worth of loans from the government-backed Export-Import Bank to be extended over the next three years.

To help Poland finance imports from Japan, Kaifu is to offer 350 million dollars in trade insurance.

In addition, Japan is prepared to donate 25 million dollars worth of emergency food assistance and 12.5 million dollars in technological cooperation.

Kaifu is expected to discuss dispatching a technical assistance mission and youth corps volunteers.

The total aid package is valued at 1.04 billion dollars.

Kaifu is to meet Solidarity trade union leader Lech Walesa and President Wojciech Jaruzelski during the two-day visit.

Poland is Kaifu's seventh stop during his 11-day trip to Europe. He is to travel to Hungary on Monday [15 January] before flying home Wednesday [17 January].

Exchanges Notes on Loan

OW1401162990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1616 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 14 (KYODO)—Japan and Poland exchanged notes Sunday on a 21.4 billion yen loan which forms part of Japanese economic assistance to Poland.

The notes were exchanged between Japanese and Polish Foreign Ministers Taro Nakayama and Krzysztof Skubiszewski.

Prime Ministers Toshiki Kaifu and Tadeusz Mazowiecki looked on as the notes were exchanged.

Japan will provide the first loan on the basis of its pledge last November to grant 150 million dollars in commodity loan to a stabilization fund to help Poland's wobbling economy.

The loan will be provided at an interest rate of 2.9 percent and redeemed in 25 years including a seven-year grace period.

Holds Talks With Mazowiecki

OW1401174290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1727 GMT 14 Jan 90

[By Mitsuru Mabuchi]

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 14 (KYODO)—Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki told Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Sunday that he hopes the ongoing reforms in East European countries will develop into a movement toward pan-European unity, Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said.

Mazowiecki said his stance is similar to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's call for a "common house in Europe," the officials said.

Kaifu arrived here Sunday for his first visit to an East European nation in his 11-day European tour.

In a meeting with the Japanese prime minister, Mazowiecki said he wishes to strengthen Poland's relations with the European Community (EC) and other countries in Western Europe.

Kaifu told Mazowiecki that Japan will provide about 1.04 billion dollars to Poland in aid to help revitalize the country's troubled economy.

The aid package includes 500 million dollars worth of loans from the government-backed Export-Import Bank of Japan to be extended over the next three years.

It also includes a 150-million dollar loan for a fund to help stabilize Poland's economy.

In addition Japan plans to purchase 25 million dollars worth of flour from Hungary to donate to Poland as emergency food assistance. Managerial and environmental assistance valued at 12.5 million dollars will also be provided, Kaifu said.

Mazowiecki told Kaifu that Poland's efforts to switch to a market-oriented economy are not intended to improve the old system but rather to replace it with a system that has been tried and tested in foreign countries.

He singled out the hyper-inflation that is bedeviling Poland as the single most threatening problem to its economy.

The first half of this year will be a crucial test of the reforms, but there can be no returning to the old system, the officials quoted him as saying.

He expressed confidence in the viability of the reform program, pointing to the "deep understanding" of the people.

Mazowiecki stressed that Poland is a stable and reliable nation with regard to investment and economic assistance.

He noted that Poland, which has been a trailblazer in the East European drive for democracy, is already a democratic country.

Touching on the question of German reunification, Mazowiecki warned against any attempt to erode the current Western borders of Poland.

While acknowledging the German people's right to self-determination, the Polish premier emphasized that his country's Western borders should be confirmed.

He pointed to the importance of the connection between the process of German reunification and the unity of the whole of Europe.

The Polish premier lavished praise on Kaifu's Berlin speech, saying it shows his deep understanding of the East European region.

In his Berlin speech, last Tuesday, Kaifu indicated Japan's readiness to provide economic support to East European nations, as well as support for the EC's market integration and Tokyo's desire for stronger cooperative ties with Europe as a whole.

Mazowiecki said he wanted to discuss the Japanese initiatives for deeper bilateral ties.

In reference to Poland's relations with other Soviet-bloc nations as well as with Moscow itself, he said Poland will seek nation-to-nation relations separate from those between political parties.

Kaifu will leave Poland on Tuesday for Hungary, the final stop on a tour that has also taken him to Belgium, West Germany, France, Britain, and Italy, including the Vatican. He leaves for home on Wednesday.

More on Aid

LD1401223490 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Report on interview with Wladyslaw Klaczynski, deputy director of the Foreign Affairs Ministry Press and Information Department, by correspondent Aleksandra Dytner—date and place not given]

[Text] [Klaczynski] The (?participation) of Japan in aid for Poland will be around $200 million—that is a stabilization credit, food aid, and participation in the training of Polish managers. Japan is coming forward with proposals for government credit guarantees for investments in Poland to the level of $650 million and also $500 million of guarantees of the Japanese (?export-import bank) for the implementation of various projects not associated with so-called [word indistinct], support for economic reforms in Poland and similar. Help and cooperation will exceed $1 billion.

[Dytner] (?hopes) are associated with Daihatsu—was this topic discussed?

[Klaczynski] The decisions on Daihatsu must be made as a result of talks by experts. In any case, the Polish side gave expression to its interest in, and support for, this offer.

[Dytner] What other concrete proposals were there from the Japanese side?

[Klaczynski] The proposals, it has to be said quite frankly, were rather from our side. The Polish side was the more active side, the Japanese declared their readiness to consider our [words indistinct], relates to the starting-up of car windshield production in Poland, cooperation in the area of the electronic industry. Premier Mazowiecki proposed at the plenary meeting that the Japanese side participate to the maximum possible degree in the construction of factories and equipment allocated for he protection of the environment. He even mentioned that if there was to be an appropriate interest from the Japanese side, [words indistinct] qualified personnel, the possibilities of this production, then who knows if this kind of production would not take on significance not only for Poland and Japan, but for the whole of our region.

Meets With Leaders, Officials

LD1401224490 Warsaw PAP in English 2050 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 14—Talks with Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki and Poland's Cabinet members, and a meeting with Lech Walesa were the most important events of the first day of the official visit paid to Poland by Japan's Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

Premier Kaifu arrived here today directly from Rome and his visit to Poland is the last but one stage, before Hungary, of his European tour.

Toshiku Kaifu is accompanied by Minister of Foreign Affairs Taro Nakayama and a group of deputies to both houses of the Japanese Parliament.

Welcome at Airport

Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki, Vice Premier Leszek Balcerowicz, Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski, Head of the Office of the Council of Ministers Jacek Ambroziak, Deputy Marian Orzechowski, Senator Janusz Ziolkowski and ambassadors of both countries Mitsutaka Akiho and Ryszard Frackiewicz awaited the guests at the airport here.

In my talks with Premier Mazowiecki, Toshiki Kaifu said at the airport, I would like to express our deep will for cooperation with Poland which has courageously entered the road of democratization and reforms. It is conducive to stability both in Europe and in the world. I would like to express respect for that courage.

Talks in Council of Ministers Office

A face-to-face meeting of both premiers lasted for over an hour.

Tadeusz Mazowiecki briefed the guest on the political and economic transformations going on in Poland stressing their peaceful character. He pointed out that the most important task in economy today is to curb inflation in tune with the program being implemented since January 1. The economic reform enjoys broad social support therefore Poland is a reliable economic partner, Mazowiecki said.

On his part Premier Kaifu expressed support for the changes in Poland which started, as he said, democratic processes in central and eastern Europe. He declared that Japan would support an assistance programme for Poland.

Directly after the meeting between both politicians plenary talks started.

Poland's Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski pointed out that Japan's assistance to Poland plays strategic functions as well because transformation in Poland and in other countries in Central and Eastern Europe serve the cause of international security. The assistance, very important at the present stage of bilateral relations, creates conditions for undertaking economic cooperation in future.

Vice Premier Balcerowicz thanked for the offered assistance to Poland presented by Premier Kaifu in West Berlin. It consists of a 150-million dollar credit for stabilization of the Polish currency, 25 million dollars for food assistance, 15 million dollars for managers' training, 350 million dollars are credits guaranteed by the state, and 500 million are credits from the Export-Import bank of Japan.

While talking about Poland's expectations the vice premier stated that they relate to starting regular flights between Warsaw and Tokyo, and signing an agreement on protection and support of investments.

Minister for Foreign Economic Relations Marcin Swiecicki pointed out that Japan's share in economic cooperation with Poland is in tune neither with the potential of that country nor with Poland's expectations. About a thousand joint venture companies with foreign partners have been set up in Poland but none of them with Japan.

Minister Swiecicki expressed conviction that the reforms in Poland will open a new chance for cooperation which should encourage the Japanese capital to invest in Poland.

Directly after the talks the ministers of foreign affairs of Poland and Japan signed three documents, namely a note, a letter and a protocol, referring to Polish-Japanese cooperation, mainly the financial one.

Premiers' Statements

Some of the questions connected with the adopted documents and with prospects for Polish-Japanese cooperation were explained by both premiers to journalists.

Said Premier Kaifu:

I have not got acquainted with the letter yet, therefore we will consider in detail the proposal for ten joint economic undertakings at a later date. If there is a project conducive to deepening our relations in it, it will certainly be positively opined.

Premier Mazowiecki said:

Our talks were general. We conveyed to the Japanese delegation the aide memoire with some concrete suggestions. Tomorrow talks among experts will be held. If the channels for our regular contacts proved insufficient, I have suggested to Premier Kaifu to seek extraordinary measures of communication with a view to pushing our cooperation to a qualitatively new stage.

Tadeusz Mazowiecki added also that Premier Kaifu promised to support Poland in negotiations with the Paris Club of Creditors and with international financial organizations.

Meeting With Walesa

In the evening Premier Toshiki Kaifu received Solidarity leader Lech Walesa.

The talk together with dinner lasted for over two and a half hours.

Walesa described its course as very good. He made a reservation however that one must wait for effects of it.

Asked by PAP whether he plans to go to Japan, Walesa said that he has been invited there and that it is his third invitation to that country.

On Monday, after further talks with personalities of the Polish political life Premier Toshiki Kaifu is leaving Warsaw for Budapest.

Easing of Cocom Rules Urged

OW1501052690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0447 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 15 KYODO—Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki on Sunday called on Japan's Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to ease Cocom [Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls] export rules to Eastern bloc nations including Poland, Polish officials said.

The Japanese premier, in Warsaw on the latest leg of an 11-day European tour, was quoted by Polish officials as indicating his positive stance toward the issue, and saying that Japan will give serious consideration to the request.

Mazowiecki reportedly asked Japan to urge its 14 partners in the Paris-based Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (Cocom) to relax regulations on flows of sensitive advanced technologies to the Soviet bloc.

A Japanese Foreign Ministry official who is accompanying Kaifu refused to comment on the report.

Cocom, a watchdog on exports to the communist bloc, is expected to remove both Poland and Hungary from the list of nations to which such controls apply at a high working-level meeting scheduled in February, according to Western diplomatic sources in Warsaw.

Kaifu and Mazowiecki agreed to start negotiations for a bilateral treaty to guarantee Japanese investment in Poland, Japanese officials said.

The pact is expected to pave the way for bilateral joint ventures such as those involving Japan's Daihatsu Motor Co. and Asahi Glass Co.

Kaifu leaves for Hungary on Monday evening and will return home on Wednesday.

Walesa Encourages Larger Presence

OW1501043990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0421 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 15 KYODO—Solidarity leader Lech Walesa asked Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Sunday to help establish a larger Japanese presence in Poland to assist its efforts to transform itself into a free-market economy, Japanese officials said.

He told Kaifu, who is visiting the East European country on the latest stop in his 11-day European tour, that financial aid, although quite helpful, is not enough.

Poland wants to become a "second Japan" and needs Japan's expertise and know-how to run companies under a free market economy, he was quoted as saying.

Asked in what fields Poland needs most help, Walesa singled out banking business and joint ventures that would bring to Poland business administrative expertise.

In particular he called for joint business concerns in automobile and TV manufacturing as well as in the telecommunications field.

Kaifu said Japan is willing to supply assistance in such fields, and plans to send a fact-finding mission to Poland to investigate the climate for investment in April.

Walesa emphasized that Poland faces an extremely onerous task to convert its ruined economy into a free-market dynamo.

Poland badly needs Japan as a role model for its metamorphosis into a free economy, Walesa reportedly said.

He also said political reforms in Poland have already begun to bear fruit, but reforms of the economy have a long way to go. "We are running out of time," he was quoted as saying.

In response to a question from Kaifu about his outlook on Europe's future, Walesa expressed the hope that Poland will be integrated into a larger economy, an apparent reference to the European Community (EC).

Europe will march toward unity through the integration of the EC market in 1992, he said.

He also expressed concern about China, where reforms have ground to a halt after the bloody suppression of the pro-democracy movement last June.

Walesa said China needs more reforms, but it will take a long time.

He cited the fact it took about 10 years for political reforms in Poland to take root.

Kaifu is to hold meetings with Poland's President Wojciech Jaruzelski and parliamentary leaders on Monday, and to have lunch with Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki.

In a meeting with Mazowiecki on Sunday, Kaifu said Japan will provide aid worth about 1.04 billion dollars to Poland to help revitalize its economy, Japanese officials said.

The package includes 500 million dollars worth of loans to be extended over the next three years, and a separate 150-million dollar loan fund to help stabilize the economy.

In addition, Japan plans to purchase 25 million dollars worth of flour from Hungary to donate to Poland as emergency food assistance, and to give managerial and environmental assistance worth 12.5 million dollars, the officials said.

To help Poland finance imports from Japan, Kaifu also offered 350 million dollars in trade insurance, they said.

Kaifu leaves Warsaw on Monday evening for Hungary, the final stop on a tour which has taken him to West Germany, Belgium, France, Britain, and Italy, including the Vatican.

He is to return home on Wednesday.

Kaifu Received by Jaruzelski

LD1501140190 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1300 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, who is visiting our country, met with the Senate and Sejm speakers, Andrzej Stelmachowski and Mikolaj Kozakiewicz. The Japenese guest was also received today by President Wojciech Jaruzelski. Issues concerning Polish-Japanese bilateral cooperation were discussed in particular. The Japanese prime minister expressed recognition for Poland's political transformations and economic reforms. He emphasized the pioneering role played by Poland in democratization processes in East-Central Europe and the shaping of a positive model for these transformations. Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu announced Japans support for the transformations taking place in our country.

Holds Talks

OW1501154490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1519 GMT 15 Jan 90

[By Mitsuru Mabuchi]

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 15 KYODO—Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski Monday told Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu that politics are still volatile in Eastern Europe outside Poland.

Jaruzelski stressed that political reforms in Poland have reached the grass-roots level under the present government led by Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki.

Jaruzelski, however, acknowledged that Poland is not problem-free, saying there is a chance that people's dissatisfaction with the government's austere economic programs and with major changes could threaten the nation's overall stability.

In a breakthrough election last August, the reform-led Solidarity party took all 161 seats it was allowed to contest in the Sejm, and 99 of the 100 seats in the senate. But the Communist Party and its allies retrained 229 seats in the 460-member Sejm through a reserved list. Nevertheless, the Polish president said he is confident about the future course of reforms in his country.

He said the Mazowiecki government has full public support.

Calling himself a "cautious optimist," Jaruzelski said Poland will continue its march toward reforms, but added that economic and technical assistance from the world's industrialized nations will be crucial to the movements' success.

The Polish head of state also expressed his wish for stronger and deeper bilateral ties with Japan.

Japan's aid package to help Poland has given psychological encouragement to the Polish people, he was quoted as saying.

Jaruzelski said he is determined to actualize his country's potential by modernizing industry and agriculture.

Kaifu lauded the president for his role as a "trail blazer" in the historic shift from confrontation to dialogue.

He reiterated Japan's willingness to provide support for Poland's reforms.

Kaifu visits Hungary on Monday evening, the final stop on an 11-day tour which has taken him to West Germany, Belgium, France, Britain and Italy, including the Vatican.

Kaifu is to meet Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth and Interim President Matyas Szuros on Tuesday in Budapest. He is to return home Thursday.

Meets With Skubiszewski

OW1501162990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1443 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 15 KYODO—Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski said Monday the Warsaw Pact is expected to become an ideology-free alliance in the future.

Skubiszewski expressed that view in a meeting with Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, who is accompanying Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on his European tour.

Skubiszewski said Poland is stepping up actions as an independent nation and is planning to build friendly relations with the Soviet Union on the basis of equanimity.

He said other Eastern European nations also are of the similar views. Therefore, the Warsaw Pact will switch to an ideology-free alliance, the Polish foreign minister said.

While saying the Warsaw Pact may build up its political role by lowering confrontation with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Skubiszewski said Eastern European nations will remain in the pact.

He indicated the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (Comecon) should be reformed to incorporate it into the world economy.

Nakayama told Skubiszewski Japan is ready to give technical training and other aid to Poland in addition to economic assistance.

Luncheon With Mazowiecki

*LD1501175690 Warsaw PAP in English
1642 GMT 15 Jan 90*

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 15—Speaking at luncheon given in honour of the Japanese premier, Toshiki Kaifu, Poland's Prime Minister Taduesz Mazowiecki said in part:

You come to us as the first head of government from the region of Asia and Pacific at a time when deep changes are taking place in Poland. We particularly value this visit viewing it as an expression of lively and deliberate interest in what is going on in our part of the world.

Your visit to Poland and to other European states takes place at a crucial moment. The peoples of Eastern and Central Europe regain freedom and sovereignty and their national identity. This historic process of reforms—started by Poland, Hungary and the USSR—aims at materialising fundamental human rights and restoring sound economy in our region.

In Poland, this process covered all areas of life proceeding in a peaceful and evolutionary way. We have been making our country a state of law and democracy. Our changes are of a sweeping and lasting character. Their internal stability gives our state external stability in international relations, both political and economic ones. We have taken the task of restoring and modernizing the Polish economy, and switching it over to the tracks of the market economy, tested worldwide. In the present circumstances, this difficult task requires considerable sacrifice on the part of Poles. We are determined in this action because we know that we will overcome our difficulties only in this way. Both the government and society understand this.

International cooperation, particularly with the International Monetary Fund, should make our difficult and ambitious assumptions of the economic programme credible for all our partners. We highly value Japan's friendly attitude towards Polish changes, which has been expressed in the decisions of the Japanese Government, made under your, Mr. Prime Minister, chairmanship, to support the stabilization fund for Poland.

I positively assess the state of political relations between our countries. However, economic cooperation does not catch up with them. We want Japan to occupy a considerably higher position both on the list of trading partners and as regards economic involvement in Poland. We are interested in a clear presence of Japanese capital and companies in the Polish market. We want this to be coupled with the transfer of patterns of Japanese organization of production and high quality of labour, recognized worldwide, to the Polish economy.

We are interested in the development of scientific, technical and technological cooperation in areas defined by experts of both countries. We count on assistance in the supplies of equipment and know-how for environmental protection. We would like to open a direct Warsaw-Tokyo air connection, as its absence has impeded the development of bilateral contacts so far. This would be a sign of our rapprochement today and would create a possibility to deepen it tomorrow.

We think that giving government guarantees on credits to Japanese companies may start a new dimension of our cooperation, different from the one to date. Poland, situated on the contact line of the East and West of Europe is a country of tremendous opportunities. We do not want you to rely on ungrounded promises but we do encourage you to considerately but also to boldly discover these opportunities by yourselves.

I ask myself why Poland could not be an European station in which Japan's experience could—by means of joint efforts of your technical and financial capacities and our human labour—serve both the East and the West of Europe, especially in this area which links the preservation of nature with the protection of man.

We want to maintain permanent dialogue with Japan and cooperation in the international forum. I am happy that our views on bilateral relations and on the main international issues are convergent.

Speaks on Reforms, Relations

*LD1501161490 Warsaw PAP in English
1356 GMT 15 Jan 90*

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 15—In his speech delivered during the lunch hosted by Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki, Japanese Premier Toshiki Kaifu said that reforms in the Eastern-European countries were not confined to the transformations in Eastern Europe but are a stimulus for the changes in the fundamental arrangement of the East-West relations, for the transition from confrontation to dialogue and cooperation.

Kaifu went on to say: The government and the Polish people, praiseworthy pioneers of reforms, have initiated these transformations. The scope of reforms which now engulfs the whole region of Eastern Europe has exceeded all expectations and at least because of this, the role played by its precursors, who in the situation of uncertainty about the fates of the reform raised high the banner of radical changes, deserves to be called historic.

Reforms in Poland and East-European countries supported by the strong striving of the nation for democracy and greater freedom in economic activity are already irreversible as one cannot stiffle the will of the whole nation. The reforms also have to be irreversible as in the situation when the new order of the world based on dialogue and cooperation is being born. Setting the clock of history back is inadmissable.

Being deeply convinced of this, Japan actively joined the international assistance for Poland. During my talks with Premier Mazowiecki and the Polish leaders I was deeply reassured that the conviction Japan shares is not a mistake. I was once again reasurred as to the correctness of choice made by Japan after the war consisting in the reconstruction of the country on the basis of the ideas of freedom, democracy and market economy.

Today, the Japanese people watch with great interest the reforms under way in Eastern European countries. Thanks to the development of mass media we could watch the Berlin Wall go down or the fall of the dictatorship in Romania which caused a great number of victims among those fighting for freedom. We unite our hearts with the nations of the countries of Eastern Europe which implement the reforms.

We expect that the great historical current will bring about a new, different from the hitherto development of relations between Japan and Poland. Therefore I wish that my on-going visit to Poland be the first step towards further broadening of relations between our countries.

Mazowiecki on Kaifu Visit, Cooperation

LD1501224690 Warsaw Television Service
in Polish 1830 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Statement by Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki on the visit by Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu, in Warsaw on 15 January—recorded]

[Text] Poland is the sixth country to be visited by Prime Minister Kaifu, and the first of the Central-East European countries where such fundamental changes have taken place. Therefore, what most interested the Prime Minister was the depth and the stability of those changes. This is what we discussed most of all.

We have also presented plans for the development of our cooperation. In April we are expecting an important Japanese delegation that will continue to consider these matters, and we expect that as a result of this visit and further steps which we decided to take, cooperation between Poland and Japan will change in quality. Such is, at any rate, our desire and expectation.

Kaifu Leaves Warsaw for Budapest

LD1501223190 Warsaw PAP in English
2036 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 15—An official visit to Poland by Japanese Premier Toshiki Kaifu and his wife came to an end today. President Wojciech Jaruzelski received the head of Japanese cabinet in the Belvedere Palace here. Kaifu paid also visits to parliament where he had talks with Sejm and Senate speakers Mikolaj Kozakiewicz and Andrzej Stelmachowski. Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki gave official luncheon in honour of the Japanese prime minister.

In the Sejm and the Senate

The Japanese premier started the second day of his visit to Poland with a visit to Parliament where he had two half-an-hour talks with Sejm and Senate Speakers Mikolah Kozakiewicz and Andrzej Stelmachowski, respectively.

Kozakiewicz told the Japanese guests about the new composition and structure and the present position of the Sejm. He characterized the main tasks of the house related to the restructuring of Poland's social, political and economic system. He also spoke about the alignment of political forces in the Sejm shaped as a result of the round table debates and the June 1989 elections. Both sides exchanged views on the role and significance of inter-parliamentary contacts for the development of Polish-Japanese relations.

Also in the Senate, both sides discussed inter-parliamentary cooperation and considered the possibilities of expanding Polish-Japanese cultural contacts. Referring to some questions in international relations, the interlocutors stressed that changes now taking place in states of Eastern Europe exerted a considerable influence on the stability of the situation on the entire continent. The Japanese premier briefed his interlocutors on the role that his country wanted to play in peaceful developments in Asia.

At the Palace of the Council of Ministers

At noon, Tadeusz Mazowiecki gave an official luncheon in honour of Toshiki Kaifu and his wife. Both premiers delivered speeches.

Farewell at the Airport

This afternoon, Japanese Premier Toshiki Kaifu, bidden farewell by Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki, left the Warsaw Airport for Budapest. Hungary is the last stage of the Japanese premier's nearly two-week tour of Europe.

On the same day, Polish and Japanese Foreign Ministers Krzysztof Skubiszewski and Taro Nakayama had talks at the Foreign Ministry.

The head of Polish diplomacy told his interlocutor about changes taking place in countries of central and Eastern Europe, with special regard to their impact on the economic situation in the region.

The Japanese foreign minister confirmed his country's interest in the reforms in Poland, at the same time voicing Japan's readiness to take part in economic assistance for Poland, organized by Western states.

CSSR Foreign Minister Dienstbier Visits

Meets With Skubiszewski

LD1101154390 Bratislava Domestic Service
in Slovak 1130 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Text] Jiri Dienstbier, Czechoslovak minister of foreign affairs, who is in Poland on an official visit, laid a wreath of flowers in Warsaw today at the grave of the unknown soldier.

In the morning, Jiri Dienstbier met at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with his Polish counterpart, Krzysztof

Skubiszewski. They spoke about some topical common problems and the further advancement of mutual cooperation.

The Czechoslovak minister is to be received by President Wojciech Jaruzelski and Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki.

Gives News Conference

LD1101225190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2000 GMT 11 Jan 90

[News conference with CSSR Foreign Minister Jiri Dientsbier by local and foreign reporters in Warsaw on 11 January—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] I am [name indistinct] from GAZETA WYBORCZA. What were your expectations prior to your arrival in Poland, and how far have they been fulfilled?

[Dienstbier] Above all, I expected that here in Warsaw, Minister Skubiszewski, the new premier, President Jaruzelski, and I would draw up a sort of list of problems which could arise in Czechoslovak-Polish relations so as to know how to proceed in the new situation, and I think that in this respect we have done a good job. From economic to political issues, we explained things to one another, and now it will be necessary for further discussions in the different commissions in order to work these out in more detail.

[Lukes] I am Petr Lukes from Czechoslovak Radio. Mr Minister, both in Poland and in Czechoslovakia the so-called German question is very sensitive for many people. What was said today in Warsaw during your meetings with Minister Skubiszewski and Premier Mazowiecki on this subject?

[Dienstbier] We spoke about these issues both in general and specific terms. I think that the issue of German reunification ties in closely with the unification of Europe, and that these issues can or should be pursued jointly. I am, of course, mindful of the fact that changes are constantly taking us by surprise, and 1989 showed this very clearly, and that in any case we will soon have in Europe an enormous German economic giant, regardless of whether it will be a confederation, one state, two states, or whatever the forms of connection between the two German states will be. I think that it is vital, in all cooperation with the German states—or with Germany, assuming that those states will want reunification—to start out from the basis that it is also necessary to speed up the all-European process, that it is not a good thing to resurrect old fears or create new fears, and that borders cannot be called into question—and here this applies above all to the Polish borders—but we think that given cooperation between all the nations of Europe, we can avoid this danger.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] I have only a brief question: can you tell us something new about Stonava [coke plant on the Czechoslovak-Polish border]? Was this issue discussed with Minister Skubiszewski?

[Dienstbier] Construction works at Stonava have been held up, as have been the state budget and economic reform in Czechoslovakia. All these questions—there is a need to research all these things again and draw a general conception of the Czechoslovak economic policy. And various projects will then be assessed within this framework—not only Stonava, it concerns the Nagymaros, construction of nuclear power stations, etc. I would say that our assessment will be based on the principle that what is not ecological is not economic either. [passage indistinct]

[Reporter] An editor over there does not see a great future for the further development of Czechoslovak-Polish relations: there were bad times, now the times are better but it seems that they can become bad again.

[Dienstbier] The times can be of any kind. Nevertheless, I think that so many shared interests exist between us and Poland and that we have so many common experiences—both with nationalistic passions and totalitarian ideologies—that we will start from human interests and will reach in a very pragmatic way an understanding on all the questions which concern us.

I do understand that journalists very much like specific answers to specific questions on such issues. We are unfortunately still unable to give these to you because we are really still on a level of establishing a list of all those issues which have to be tackled. We have to analyze these problems and only then will we be able to reach some specific solutions.

Nevertheless, I want to stress that an understanding, a great understanding exists here on both sides—both with Minister Skubiszewski and with Mr Mazowiecki with whom I had an opportunity to hold talks which were totally open, without any kind of diplomatic evasion; and we agreed that Czechoslovak-Polish cooperation is extraordinarily important. All of us will devote extraordinary attention to it.

Received by Jaruzelski

LD1101215390 Warsaw PAP in English 2005 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 11—President Wojciech Jaruzelski today received Czechoslovakia's Foreign Affairs Minister Jirzi Dienstbier, now on an official visit to Poland.

Briefing the president on the talks held with Premier Mazowiecki and Foreign Affairs Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski, Dienstbier presented the intentions of Czechoslovakia's foreign policy, particularly as concerns the development of friendly relations with Poland. Against the backdrop of an evaluation of the situation in Europe, the president underscored the significance which Poland attaches to good-neighbourly, allied, and mutually advantageous relations with Czechoslovakia.

President Jaruzelski once again invited President Vaclav Havel to pay a visit to Poland this month.

The talks were attended by Minister of State Jozef Czyrek and Minister of Foreign Affairs Krzysztof Skubiszewski.

Announces Upcoming Visits

LD1101234190 Warsaw PAP in English
2240 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 11—Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel is expected to pay a visit to Poland in late January while Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki is to go to Prague in the second half of this month.

A Polish-Czechoslovak commission of experts will meet in a week to study all aspects of relations between the two states.

These dates were, among other things, topics of talks held by Czechoslovakia's Foreign Minister Jirzi Dienstbier in Warsaw today.

Meeting With Prime Minister

Minister Dienstbier called today on Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki to discuss mutual relations and transformations now going on in Europe.

They also compared the scope and character of reforms in the two countries and stressed the importance of processes of European integration and the necessity to support them. This integration should go ahead of the process of rapprochement between the two German states or be at least parallel to it, they stated.

Both politicians spoke about the evolution in the USSR and its crucial importance for the present and future transformations in Central Europe.

Talks in Foreign Ministry

Today, Minister Dienstbier also met with Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski. After a face-to-face meeting, they chaired plenary talks.

In his opening speech, Skubiszewski stressed that the Polish Government welcomed with great satisfaction changes in Czechoslovakia. We pin great hopes on the new authorities of that country, he said.

We are advocates of special ties with Czechoslovakia and have great opportunities to improve our relations, Skubiszewski said.

The Czechoslovak minister pointed to the traditions in the Polish-Czechoslovak relations, evidenced in the past years by meetings of KOR (Committee for Defence of Workers) and Chapter 77 activists. He stressed his Warsaw visit would be followed by top-level meetings. This shows how much importance we attach to relations with Poland, he said.

During the plenary talks, the sides resolved to study the existing treaties and agreements between the two states from the point of view of changes that had taken place in the two countries.

As concerns economic issues, the sides stressed that the volume of mutual trade was unsatisfactory and that there were too few joint economic undertakings.

They decided that the two governments would in the future coordinate but [as received] main directions of cooperation while the rest would depend on enterprises in the two countries.

Among important questions under discussion there were ecological issues and tourist traffic. Skubiszewski raised the question of the Polish ethnic group in Czechoslovakia, the possibility of forming new organizations of Poles who live there, their access to the Polish language and culture and to studies in Poland.

Dienstbier spoke about work on a new law on associations which will allow the forming of such organizations.

In the evening, Dienstbier met with journalists. The talks with Wojciech Jaruzelski, Tadeusz Mazowiecki and Krzysztof Skubiszewski were open and free of diplomatic tricks, he said.

We came to the common conclusion that Polish-Czechoslovak cooperation was extremely important. We discussed economic issues and cooperation in culture. It is important for our cooperation to remove the hitherto formalism from them, he said.

Referring to the concept of a Polish-Czechoslovak Federation, Dienstbier opined that the goal of cooperation between the two states should be the striving for a common Europe and not forming new blocs. While entering a common European house, Poland and Czechoslovakia may go together and get into it together, he said.

Personal reasons made President Havel visit first the two German states, Dienstbier said in response to one of the questions.

President of the GDR Council of State Manfred Gerlach called on the president when the latter was an ordinary citizen and representative of the Civic Forum. Havel's visit was thus a return one and at the same time he wanted to see the Berlin Wall as a symbol of the end of the division of Europe.

Apart from a meeting with the FRG president, Havel could only then collect the award granted to him by West German publishers.

His visit to Munich—where the treaty on Czechoslovakia's annexation was signed in 1938—the president treated as a symbol of the restored sovereignty and return to Europe, Dienstbier said.

Dienstbier said he was going to Budapest after the Warsaw visit, and added his talks there would concern similar issues.

In response to the question about Germany's reunification, he said that the issue should be viewed at in connection with Europe's unification.

Soon this continent will see the emerging German economic giant regardless of the form of the possible reunification of Germany would take on, he said.

Thus, it is indispensable to speed up the process of all-European integration and counteract the recurrence of old fears concerning the border questions which are so important to Poland, he said.

On the same day, the Czechoslovak visitor laid a wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldier here and flowers at the grave of Father Jerzy Popieluszko.

Jirzi Dienstbier also met with his Polish friends and colleagues. That was a private meeting.

Commentary on Possible Polish-CSSR Union

AU1201183390 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 10 Jan 90 p 1

[Jacek Moskwa commentary: "A Rectangle in Central Europe"]

[Text] Contacts between Prague and Warsaw have picked up energy. Today, just a few days after the Czechoslovak finance minister's visit, we are receiving his colleague, responsible for foreign affairs in the new government, Jiri Dienstbier.

News is coming in from Prague that the idea of a Czechoslovak-Polish confederation has met with a certain echo, but mainly among intellectuals and trade union activists. Government circles have reacted rather coolly, unlike in Budapest, where there has been a semi-official declaration about Hungary's possible participation in the new political set-up.

Poland will certainly continue with initiatives aimed in this direction. Do they have a remote chance of fulfillment? The Western press has said that, during his visit to Berlin and Moscow, President Vaclav Havel suggested the "surprising idea" of an FRG-GDR-Czechoslovakia triangle. At first sight, this seems to pose the danger of something like the medieval Holy Roman Empire. However, the danger is rather hypothetical. Germany has enough problems as it is with the prospect of inter-German unity, for this poses a danger to the unity of the European Community and of the North Atlantic Pact.

France in particular seems concerned that a united Germany may arise before the "Twelve" are properly integrated. This concern is shared by the remaining countries of the Western alliance. Hence the statement in the recent NATO Council communique that the unity of Western Europe is a condition for the future unity of Germany. In turn, the United States has very clearly combined the question of German unity with the question of the future Germany's membership of NATO. Obviously, this would be unacceptable to the USSR. Strictly theoretically, the Soviet Union might agree to unification, provided that Germany becomes neutral and that its links with the United States and the EEC are loosened. Clearly, such a scenario is unattractive either to the West as a whole or to Germany itself.

The result is a stalemate, in which the United States and the "Twelve" are, unexpectedly, on the same side as the USSR. This situation makes less likely the prospect of the inclusion of the Czech lands and Slovakia in an expanded Germany.

Czechoslovak-Polish relations contain many problems concerning the environment, the economy, and cross-border traffic that require urgent solutions before there can be any serious talk of a new quality of, or even an institutionalization of, political ties. Nevertheless, despite appearances, the present international situation favors such solutions. We have already said that the emergence of a more powerful political and economic potential in central and eastern Europe is not contrary to the Soviet raison d'etat. For the above reasons, the United States and EEC countries might be interested in such a potential. It is a very hazardous guess, but perhaps in this way Germany might gain something that would neutralize the fears caused by German unity.

Ambassadorial Post in Albania Reestablished

LD1501022390 Warsaw PAP in English 1834 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 13—The post of Poland's ambassador to Albania has been reestablished, after a break, in Tirana.

Wladyslaw Ciaston, who was till now Poland's charge d'affaires ad interim in Albania, presented his credentials to President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly Ramiz Alia.

Anti-Soviet Demonstration Held in Legnica

LD1201230890 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2200 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Tatiana Zychlinska dispatch from Legnica]

[Text] The Freedom and Peace Movement [FPM] organized a demonstration in Legnica today against the stationing of Soviet troops in Poland. A letter concerning this matter and addressed to Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki on 15 November of last year and another letter, in which FPM members express concern with, I quote—the total lack of interest of the premier with the stationing of Soviet troops on Polish territory, end of quote—were read in front of the Monument to Brotherhood in Arms and later in front of the commander's headquarters of the Soviet garrison in Legnica. Doubts were also expressed about the correctness of the settling of accounts between the Soviet Army and Poland. About 200 people who took part in the demonstration went home peacefully after the demonstration ended.

At that point a conversation took place between a FPM representative and members of the garrison command. This was the first conversation of such nature. It lasted for more than an hour. Representing the Soviet side were the garrison commander, the political officer, and an officer responsible for housing and administrative matters, who showed to the FPM representative one of the agreements with a Polish construction company which is refurbishing an apartment block used by the Russians, as an example of the way in which the accounts are settled between the Polish and the Soviet side. The Soviet side suggested that they should explain all doubts concerning the way all the accounts are settled and give the FPM access to the documents in their possession. It was agreed that the talks will be continued.

Freighter's Crewmen Released by EPLF

LD1501131890 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1105 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Excerpt] [Announcer] Hello, ladies and gentlemen. We begin with very good news. Here is Antoni Popov on the air:

[Popov] Literally a dozen or so minutes ago, we received news from the Polish Ocean Lines that the crew of the "Boleslaw Krzywousty", held by Eritrean guerillas, has been freed as a result of negotiations and is already in Port Sudan. The Polish sailors, safe and well, will probably travel to Warsaw tomorrow on a regular flight. The Gdynia shipowner has arranged rooms for the "Boleslaw Krzywousty" crew in one of Warsaw's hotels, and is sending special buses to the capital for them this afternoon. And so, the almost two weeks of torment of the Polish crew and their families has ended happily. [passage omitted]

Leaders, Premier Call for Early Local Elections

Walesa Appeal

LD1501180190 Warsaw PAP in English 1640 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 15—Solidarity leader Lech Walesa today appealed for speeding up the elections to local self-government as changes introduced by parliament and government are not introduced fast enough at the local level.

"The situation in the country is getting more complicated. The solutions adopted by the Sejm (Lower House) and the government are, in my opinion, introduced too slowly by the intermediate structures of authority. The changes are taking place at a pace which does not offer chances for their effective and fast introduction," reads a statement sent to PAP by the press office of the Solidarity chairman.

"I can see no other way but to appeal to the Sejm and Government of the Republic of Poland to firmly speed up the date of elections to local self-government," the statement says.

AFP Report

AU1501171890 Paris AFP in English 1638 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Excerpt] Warsaw, Jan 15 (AFP)—Solidarity head Lech Walesa called Monday for post-war Poland's first fully free elections to be held before time to try to speed up the pace of reform. [as received] Mr. Walesa, in a statement from his office in the northern city of Gdansk, said reforms voted by parliament and government were "being implemented too slowly" by middle-level officials in the administration.

"Under these conditions, I see no other solution than to ask the Diet (parliament) and the government...to advance the date of municipal elections," the statement received here said. The elections would normally be this June.

The last municipal elections were held in June 1988 while the government was still communist-controlled. An administration led by Tadeusz Mazowiecki, an intellectual close to Solidarity, took over last August. Rumours in Warsaw say Mr. Mazowiecki is to make a major speech Thursday and may announce a date for the elections then. [passage omitted]

Mazowiecki Supports Early Elections

LD1501200890 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki is for the acceleration of elections to local self-government. We have received news from the Government Press Office that yesterday the head of the Council of Ministers, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, met in Warsaw with the head of the Independent Self-Governing Trade Union [NSZZ] Solidarity, Lech Walesa. The socioeconomic situation was discussed. The premier informed the head of Solidarity about the intention to address the Sejm and president with a proposal for the significant acceleration of the deadline for elections to local self-governments.

Anarchist Group Attacks Senate Building 12 Jan

LD1201175190 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1615 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] A demonstration organized by the Intercity Anarchist Movement began in the center of Warsaw at 1530

[1430 GMT]. The main slogans were: Power to Self-Management; Enough Price Rises; Down With Enfranchised Nomenklatura; and, Soup for Kuron. Protesting alongside the anarchistic youth were desperate pensioners and annuitants.

Approximately 1 hour ago, the Senate meeting was disrupted and broken off by a group describing itself over a megaphone as the Intercity Anarchist Movement. Several hundred young people with black flags bearing the letter A, managed to get outside the Hall of Columns, despite the attempts of the speaker's guard to resist them. They demanded that the senators should come out to them. A window was broken. Slogans and chants began. After a break of a dozen or so minutes, proceedings recommenced and the demonstrators headed for the Polish United Workers Party Central Committee building.

Solidarity, Ministry, PZPR Attacked

LD1301063490 Warsaw PAP in English 2332 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 12—Youngsters grouped in the Intercity Anarchist Organization marched through the main streets of Warsaw today shouting "All Power to Self-Governments," "Today—Agreement, Tomorrow—Hunger and Poverty," "We Do Not Want To Starve," "Enough Price Hikes" and "Down With Everything."

At a rally they were distributing leaflets accusing the new authorities that under the cover of democratic slogans they strived to save the system which exploits workers. They also said that recommendations of the International Monetary Fund aimed at "forcing poor countries to pay back their debts faster and changing them into economic colonies that would provide Western countries with cheap workforce." The leaflets also called for the breaking of the "vicious circle of poverty" and taking one's fortunes into one's own hands.

After the rally, more than 100 demonstrators marched to the parliament building where the Senate debated and, shouting "Enough Price Hikes" and "All Power To Self-Governments," they smashed some window panes interrupting the meeting.

Halting road traffic, the youngsters marched to the building of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party (PUWP) and tried to burn the main gate. They also smashed window panes on the first floor and wrote on the wall: "Central Committee for the Homeless."

Then they went to the Solidarnosc Citizens' Committee building where they destroyed posters, emblems and photographs of the union's leaders. They also burnt a Solidarnosc banner in front of the building.

In another move, the demonstrators approached the Finance Ministry building but they were stopped there by the guards. At that moment militiamen interviewed and detained four demonstrators.

PZPR on HQ Attack

LD1201201190 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Excerpts] A serious incident which disrupted proceedings took place outside the Sejm building during the Senate debate. [passage omitted] Blocking traffic, numerous anarchists reached the Central Committee headquarters. The Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] Central Committee spokesman presented a statement, which notes:

Despite a passive stance by the forces of law and order, stones were used to break windows, and attempts were made to destroy the entrance doors using axes, after which they [the doors] were set alight. Bottles containing gasoline were thrown. This is not the first incident of this kind.

PZPR Condemns Senate Attack

LD1201225790 Warsaw PAP in English 2141 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 12—The PUWP [Polish United Workers Party] CC spokesman has presented the following statement to PAP:

A group of young people organized a demonstration in the afternoon today. Its participants broke into the Sejm (Parliament) building, breaching the solemnity of the Senate debates. The PUWP CC building also became a target of attacks. While law enforcement men stood by idly, the demonstrators broke windows with stones and attempted to destroy the entrance with axes, setting it ablaze afterwards. Bottles with petrol were thrown.

This is not the first fact of this type. Poland is threatened by lawlessness. Following monuments, books and buildings, aggression not contained in time will eventually turn against people.

We will not build a state of law by tolerating lawlessness.

Senate Holds First Session in 1990

LD1101234690 Warsaw PAP in English 2254 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 11—The Senate (Upper House of Parliament) met here today for its first session this year.

The agenda of a two-day debate provides for Senate's stand on the government's draft assumptions of the socio-economic policy for 1990 as well as on several draft resolutions of the Sejm (Lower House of Parliament) which contain government action plans with regard to the economic programme and its financial plans.

The debate on the guidelines of the socio-economic policy of the government was started by Vice-Minister of Finance Wojciech Misiag who did not limit himself to a mere presentation of the draft, but also reviewed a package of documents filed with the Parliament which constitute the second, action part of the economic programme.

Next, presented were draft resolutions on the Senate's stand on assumptions of the socio-economic policy for 1990 as well as on the government draft law on budget and on the resolution on the state balance of payment for 1990. The Senate began a discussion on the documents forming the financial policy of the state.

The Senate also adopted a resolution on amendments to the law on constitutional tribunal. The senators decided to notify the president on the lack of objections to the law on amendments to the law on constitutional tribunal adopted by the Sejm on December 1, 1989.

It was also made clear that the Senate saw no necessity to uphold its stand taken on December 7, 1989 on related to the filing with the Sejm of the deputies' draft of new amendments to the law on constitutional tribunal the contents of which corresponded to the proposals on amendements forwarded by the Senate.

Approves Economic Policy

LD1301064190 Warsaw PAP in English 2353 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 12—The Senate, parliament's upper house, closed its two-day debate this evening with passing a package of stands concerning the guidelines of the economic policy and basic financial plans: The budget law, balance of payments, balance of population's money incomes and expenditures and the monetary policy.

Thus, the Senate approved of the general line of the economic programme and, especially the concept to base the economy on market mechanisms with all the consequences such as the budget balance, giving up the financing of the budget deficit with issuing empty money, introducing a plus interest rate for bank savings and deposits and, what is equally important, the lowering of population's money resources in relation to the current incomes.

On the other hand, the Senate feared whether, after a stage of curbing the inflation, the systemmic changes introduced in such a short time would be deep enough to start economic recovery, whether the proposed moves would not make the national income drop to an excessive extent and whether the government was ready and had adequate means to prevent a deep recession.

That is why Senate's resolution on the guidelines of the socio-economic policy contains a postulate to speed up institutional changes and demonopolization and to streamline the financial, banking and communication systems as well as to replace incompetent administration employees with efficient ones. The Senate thinks that above all one should prevent a recession in economy's sore areas, in farming for one.

In its stand on the draft budget, the Senate stressed its austerity and pointed to the risk of it being out of balance at the end of the year as the three quarters will see higher expenditures than revenues.

The house also approved of special power for the cabinet to make changes in revenues and expenditures of the central budget during the year provided the Sejm (lower chamber) is presented with the indispensable information to supervise the budget. According to Senate, in the third quarter of the year the Sejm should verify the budget for the rest of the year.

The Senate also adopted a resolution on the guidelines of the farming policy in 1990 and supported the government's idea to form a competitive market in agriculture and the entire food economy.

Sadly, the debate was interrupted by some 100 youngsters of the Anarchist Intercity Group who broke some window panes in the conference hall and marched away after a few minutes.

Hunger Strike Against Nuclear Plant Continues

LD1201200490 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1615 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] The hunger strike against the construction of the Zarnowiec nuclear power station continues for the 35th day. A picket in solidarity with the hunger strikers was organized by the Freedom and Peace Movement [Wip] in Warsaw today. The condition for breaking off the hunger strike protest in the Tricity is a decision on the cessation of construction, or a decision by the People's Council in Gdansk to hold a local referendum. A resolution on the referendum will be presented to the council on 16 January.

Warsaw Radio on Armed Forces Reductions

LD1501221990 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2107 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Report on Armed Forces reductions presented on the "Discussions After The Roll Call" program hosted by Zbigniew Bednarski on 15 January]

[Excerpts] Good evening ladies and gentlemen, this is Zbigniew Bednarski speaking. In today's edition of "Discussions After The Roll Call," I would like to share with you my comments about armed forces reductions in Poland. Restructuring and reduction went quite efficiently and speedily last year. It looks as though in this year too there will be a further decrease in units, equipment and personnel of the armed forces. Following the reductions so far, as of 1 January 1990 our Army had 206,600 soldiers, the Air Defense Forces had 48,200, Air Force 38,000 and the Navy had 21,200 seamen. Altogether there are 314,000 people serving in our Armed Forces today.

Let us add that of these 108,000 are professionals, and 206,000 are conscripts. And, as we are quoting statistics, here are a few more figures: There are 142 generals and admirals in our forces, 54,200 officers, 29,058 warrant officers and 24,600 NCOs.

The figures quoted show that our Armed Forces personnel have decreased by about 40,000 soldiers. A dozen or so units have been disbanded. Considerable amounts of battle equipment of these units have been destroyed. So far it was mainly the equipment of land forces, such as tanks, APCs, cars or even artillery. Now it is the turn of the Air Force. After all, three Air regiments have been disbanded. Therefore, there was a surplus of aircraft which, in accordance with the decisions of the Committee of National Defense Ministers of the Warsaw Pact, were ordered by our head of Ministry of Defense to be withdrawn.

Today the physical destruction of these aircraft was started. They were gathered at the airfield of the 10th fighter regiment in Lasko. Intensive work has been going on since the morning. I watched it together with Colonel Grzegorz Bajko. [passage omitted]

It is planned by the end of this year to withdraw further 130 training and training and battle aircraft. As from 1995 our Air Force will therefore use only the aircraft of the following type: MIG 29, 23, 21 and 21 BIS, and SU 20 and SU 22. Altogether there will remain 400 battle aircraft, unless there are more reductions caused by further disarmament decisions. During my stay in Lasko I watched how the aircraft were destroyed. [passage omitted]

KPN Opposes 'Long List' of Government Policies

LD1401173390 Warsaw PAP in English 0006 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 12—"We would be very happy if we could support Tadeusz Mazowiecki's government in all its activities. But more and more often we do have to stand in opposition, for instance, as regards the government's attitude to the Soviet Union, to Warsaw Treaty, West Germany, CMEA or World Bank. The list is long," said leader of the KPN Confederation of Independent Poland Leszek Moczulski during a meeting at Warsaw University here today.

It is joining the opposition, the KPN will announce in the first issue of its "JUTRO" (TOMORROW) weekly which is to come out soon.

Roman on Abolishing Communist Party

AU1201222790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2018 GMT 12 Jan 90

["Meeting in Bucharest" —ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 12/1/1990 — Speaking at the meeting held Friday afternoon in Bucharest Petre Roman, Romania's Prime Minister said the very organization of that meeting was a token of the democracy established in this country. The wishes expressed here, the speaker said, deserve full attention and shall be examined and settled by the Council of the National Salvation Front [NSF]. He mentioned that the Council was a provisional body, having the task to cover the transition to the free general elections. But, the prime minister added, there can be no free elections without economic stability, without jobs, food and heat secured to the population. This is the task of the government that strives to fulfill it. In connection with the communist party, he showed that since that party had been the expression of Ceausescu's dictatorship, it would be abolished by law.

Later on during the meeting, a delegation of the NSF came out of the Victoria Palace, headed by Dumitru Mazilu, first vice-president, who discussed with the participants in the meeting, answered questions. He said that since the communist party had been confiscated by the dictatorship, becoming the instrument of political demagogy and lies employed as methods of governing against the people by that dictatorship, the Front's Council together with the well-intended people all over the country declared that that party was against the national spirit and out of the ancestral tradition. He urged that the April elections be really free, honest and never forged.

Referring to the funds of the former party, Mr. Mazilu showed that their situation would be reconsidered and they would be equally shared among all parties. All parties must be equal, he said.

Referring to the draft of the future constitution, Mr. Mazilu showed that it would be worked out and submitted to public debate and endorsed by the assembly that would be elected.

At the crowd's request, the meeting was addressed by Ion Iliescu, president of the Council of the NSF. He showed inter alia that the Front was the provisional force the only task of which was to ensure free elections. On the next days, the president mentioned, the draft election bill will be published and submitted to public debate. The Front will ensure every condition for free elections to be held, for an open dialogue with all political forces in the country. Those who are guilty of the crimes against the people will be tried and sentenced according to the law, the speaker stressed.

The making up of a delegation was suggested, that should discuss with the leaders of the Council of the NSF in order to get precise answers to the questions posed.

Peasants Party Requests Election Postponement

AU1301141490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1235 GMT 13 Jan 90

["Corneliu Coposu: The National Peasant Party Is for the Postponement of Elections in Romania"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 13/1/1990—The leader of the National Peasant Party (Christian and Democratic) the programme of which we presented on 10 January Mr Corneliu Coposu, stated in an interview with "TINERETUL LIBER" (13 January) that his party was concerned with the intention of the National Salvation Front to call elections in April. "We think that the date is too close in consideration of the special conditions Romania is in," he stressed specifying that he asked the National Salvation Front to postpone these elections until fall.

Corneliu Coposu mentioned that he also requested that account be taken of his party's opinions regarding the provisions of the election law and the guaranteeing of the free expression of the public will, as well as the restitution of the entire material base of the former National Peasant Party confiscated in 1947.

Iliescu Reportedly Agrees To Postpone Elections

AU1301164390 Paris AFP in English 1602 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Bucharest, Jan 13 (AFP)—Romania's interim President Ion Iliescu has agreed to hold general elections in June or September instead of April as had been provisionally envisaged, the opposition National Peasants Party (NPP) said Saturday.

NPP deputy leader Ion Diaconescu, who on Friday met leaders of the National Salvation Front [NSF] headed by Mr. Iliescu, said that Mr. Iliescu had agreed to the NPP proposal to put off the elections until the summer.

The NPP and other non-communist opposition groups have argued that April elections would leave insufficient time for them to organise their campaigns.

Mr. Iliescu also said he was opposed to the Front standing in the elections in its present guise, Mr. Diaconescu said.

According to the NPP deputy leader, Mr. Iliescu would prefer the Front's candidates to stand under the label of "independent lists"

Many members of the ruling NSF, which headed a broad coalition of opposition forces during the overthrow of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu last month, had ties with the communist party, banned by an NSF decree issued Friday.

Mr. Iliescu indicated that Front leaders who said the organisation might stand in the elections in its present form "did so without his agreement", Mr. Diaconescu added.

The Front leader's comment was directed particularly at Silviu Brucan, a member of the Front's executive committee, he continued. Mr. Brucan was criticised Friday by demonstrators in Bucharest for his supposed pro-communist sympathies.

Six NPP members held talks Friday with the main Front leaders including Mr. Iliescu, Prime Minister Petre Roman and the first deputy chairman of the Front, Dimitru Mazilu.

The meeting proceeded "in a good atmosphere", according to Mr. Diaconescu, but was interrupted after half an hour by a largely anti-communist demonstration outside the Front headquarters. The talks are due to resume on Tuesday.

Rally Held on 'Discontent' With NSF Communists

AU1201222990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2013 GMT 12 Jan 90

["Meeting in Bucharest"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 12/1/1990 — Speakers at the meeting held on January 12 in Victoria [Victory] Square, Bucharest, expressed discontent at the fact that persons connected with the communist party were on the Council of the National Salvation Front [NSF]. In the name of the victims of the period of the revolution and prior to it, it was requested that the bodies of the NSF, the executive of economic units and institutions should not include members of the party. Public trial of the former members of the communist party's leadership was insistently requested. Another question was whether the NSF was a party as well as whether it would participate in the future elections. The speakers insisted on the fact that the newly created parties could not enter the elections on an equal footing with the Front, both because of want of funds and because the date of the elections was too close.

ROMANIA LIBERA Asks for Resignations

AU1301143390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1413 GMT 13 Jan 90

["Dumitru Mazilu. A 'Case?'"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 13/1/1990—"ROMANIA LIBERA" daily of 13 January demands "the immediate removal of Mr Dumitru Mazilu from the leadership of the National Salvation Front. The paper brings as arguments his behaviour at the previous evening's meeting in front of the Victoria Palace when, as the paper opines pretending to voice numerous opinions citizens expressed on the phone, he prepared and led a serious attempt at the policy of national consensus, the only one able to ensure the full victory of the revolution". [quotation marks in first two sentences as received] He is said to have used "as personal political capital the day of national mourning trying to take over power".

Asked during the meeting, which was live broadcast by the Romanian television, about his past activity Mr Mazilu, the paper notes, left without any explanation.

On the other hand, as it could be seen from the TV live broadcast, the resignation Dumitru Mazilu offered to Ion Iliescu was not accepted by the delegates of the demonstrators to the talks with the Front leadership.

Timisoara NSF Leaders Resign

AU1301135590 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 0900 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] ROMPRES News Agency informs from Timisoara that after the ceremony dedicated to the memory of the martyrs of the people's revolution, a big crowd of young people held a rally in front of the headquarters of the County Council of the National Salvation Front [NSF]. During the rally, they voiced their protests against and their dissatisfaction with some members of the council. Before this demonstration, the president of the Timis County NSF Council, Lorin Fortuna, announced his resignation.

Also, Major General Gheorghe Popescu, commander of Timisoara Garrison, said that a new NSF Council will be elected in the next 5 to 7 days and he will ensure the leadership of the county until then. The crowd received these news with cheers of "The Army is with us" and "We want free elections."

Army Reportedly Takes Control in Timisoara

LD1301092390 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0900 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] In Timisoara, the Army has temporarily taken over the leadership, since the local organization of the National Salvation Front has resigned. The commander of the county army district indicated that all this would only be in effect for a few days, until the new members of the body are elected.

Army Denial

AU1401212990 Paris AFP in English 2059 GMT 14 Jan 90

[By Nicolas Miletitch]

[Text] Timisoara, Romania, Jan 14 (AFP)—A Romanian Army official Sunday rejected reports that the Army had taken control in the city of Timisoara after a leader of the local council of the National Salvation Front (NSF) stepped down under public pressure.

The Romanian Army is to share power with civilians until new regional officials will be elected by Friday, General Gheorghe Popescu, 65, commander of the Timis military region told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

"We do not intend to replace the Ceausescu dictatorship by a military dictatorship," the general added in an interview.

The Army intervened to "ensure order without taking the place of the council" following the resignation Saturday of the local NSF leader Lorin Fortuna, a 41-year-old engineer.

The council will continue its work without its chairman, he added.

The official news agency ROMPRES said earlier there had been large anti-communist protests Friday in front of the local NSF headquarters in Timisoara urging Mr. Fortuna to step down.

The rally of about 1,500—Timisoara has a population of 350,000—was organized by an opponent to Mr. Fortuna in the local council, 27-year-old Sorin Oprea, and the former regional party leader Radu Balan, according to concurrent sources.

Mr. Fortuna rose to his council position after joining Timisoara's first insurgents' committee. He blocked an attempt by Mr. Balan to become a member of the local NSF council after the downfall last month of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

Mr. Fortuna had never been a member of the Romanian Communist Party and had spoken out in favor of establishing a Western-style social democratic parliamentary system of government in Romania.

He was apparently pressured to step down for his insistence that council figures not qualified to take on responsible posts should resign.

Opposition was reportedly strongest among militants whose revolutionary merits were not in doubt but who were otherwise unqualified, and from the former nomenklatura seeking to get rid of an avowed anti-Communist.

Gen. Popescu said he regretted Mr. Fortuna's resignation and Friday's rally.

Elections to the 51-member council are to be held in universities, factories, the public administration and agricultural cooperatives under army supervision until Wednesday.

Two days later the council will elect a new executive office and the council chairman. "On this date the Army's mission will be over," Gen. Popescu said.

Sources close to the former council leader said Mr. Fortuna will be a candidate on the ballot.

Sunday only the city's Opera Square, the radio and television headquarters and the garrison were guarded by armoured cars.

Meanwhile, about one thousand people took to the streets in the city of Brasov, central Romania, Sunday to press demands that local council officials account for the makeup of the regional and local NSF within the next two days.

Demonstrators were particularly angered at reports that former members of the dismantled Securitate secret police and the army were sitting on the council.

They also asked that journalists who closely collaborated with the Ceausescu regime be fired and replaced.

Meanwhile in Bucharest, Foreign Minister Sergiu Celac said he was personally opposed to restoring the death penalty as such a move would "damage the image of the new Romanian democracy overseas."

Romanians are to decide on January 28 if the death penalty for "terrorists"—former henchmen of the late dictator Nicolae Ceausescu—should be restored.

Speaking at a press conference attended by European Economic Community Vice-President Frans Andriessen, Mr. Celac said "the two tyrants (Mr. Ceausescu and his wife Elena) should be the last to have been sentenced to death".

Timisoara Official on 12 Jan Demonstration

LD1301230990 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] [Announcer] Csaba Bojte has interviewed on the telephone someone in Timisoara:

[Begin recording] [Bojte] After news agency reports on a takeover of power by the military in Timisoara, I called the County Timis National Salvation Front.

[Captain Alexandru Tulzas, in Romanian with superimposed Hungarian translation] I am Captain Alexandru Tulzas. I have been authorized to say the following: Yesterday evening, the population in Timisoara organized a peaceful demonstration, and they voiced firm demands.

[Bojte, in Romanian with superimposed Hungarian translation] Who organized the demonstration?

[Tulzas] No one. It took shape spontaneously; it was a crowd of several thousand people, young people, workers. They demanded the resignation of the Front's chairman.

[Bojte] What justification did they give for this?

[Tulzas] There were several reasons. Primarily, that the Securitate men responsible for the mass butcherings had not yet been taken to court. At this, Mr Fortuna, resigned, but he is still a member of the Front's council. The military did not take over power, therefore there was no military coup; the former leadership is still in place.

[Bojte] You mentioned that the demonstrators demanded that the Securitate men be convicted.

[Tulzas] Yes. Several Securitate men are under arrest. The trial of 11 of them will begin on Monday. Among them is Securitate General Matri. [end recording]

[Announcer] The trial will be public. [end recording]

Iliescu Meets With Bucharest Demonstrators 12 Jan

AU1301144090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2322 GMT 12 Jan 90

["Dialogue" -ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest. ROMPRES, 12/01/1990—Friday evening a dialogue was conducted between the leadership of the National Salvation Front Council and a delegation representing demonstrators from various counties and the Romanian capital city, on questions related to the political, economic and social situation in the country and the way the Front works to solve the grave problems confronting the country.

At the conclusion of these discussions, which were live on television, President Ion Iliescu called for unity and constructive action allowing for the existing hard problems to be solved and for the productive activity to resume in the economic units in order to provide the country's recovery.

Iliescu, Roman Interviewed on Demonstrations

AU1301210390

[Editorial Report] At 2001 GMT on 13 January, Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian interrupts its newscast. After a 30-second silence, a joint relay with Bucharest television occurs.

An unidentified voice asks Iliescu to comment on yesterday's "demonstrations" in Bucharest.

At 2003 GMT, Iliescu says that yesterday was a day of mourning, a dialogue was supposed to take place in Victory Square, which turned into a demonstration.

Precipitous decisions were taken, which showed "weakness" in giving in to the pressure. Therefore, two of the decisions taken, the decision to reinstate the death penalty and to outlaw the Communist Party, will be submitted to the 28 January referendum. Apropos the Communist Party, the National Salvation Front (NSF) has gone on record saying that the Romanian Communist Party has dissolved itself.

He goes on to say that Romanians are at a "dramatic turning point" in their country. He talks about great economic hardships. He understands the lack of patience of the people, but nothing can be done overnight. He says that the NSF cannot withdraw from leadership of the country, because that will "pave way for chaos and anarchy, hence, for a new form of dictatorship, which would be a disaster for the country." "In order to perform our responsibilities, we need the support of all the people." He talks about organizational instability at local level, repeated elections of new leaders, power struggles. "All this prevents us from stabilizing the situation." This instability reflects itself in performance of public bodies, enterprises. Then, he talks about the guidelines issued to local NSF bodies to clarify their duties.

At 2016 GMT, a TV moderator intervenes and says something indistinguishable. Iliescu continues saying that NSF councils in enterprises will not assume political power there, but that they "play the role of trade unions and have other tasks in coordinating activity with managerial councils in enterprises."

He wants to end this phase of "organizational fluidity" and the state of perpetual instability.

In conclusion, he wants to remove suspicions about the Front's intention to grab power. He wants to allay fears in this respect. NSF tasks are for a limited period of time. He says that Mazilu will elaborate on some points.

The TV moderator asks about cooperation, harmony among the Front's members.

Iliescu says that the Front consists of people with various political orientations, but this is the only way to organize a national consensus. Then, goes on talking about the Front's unity, within the context of democratic discussions.

The TV moderator speaks about the live broadcast of yesterday's "demonstration," regrets about abuses by certain people, however, demonstrations are a clear form of democracy.

Iliescu starts speaking about freedom of demonstrations, warns against chaotic demonstrations, saying that "democracy has to be learned." He says the totalitarian regime has meant "crisis in all spheres."

Prime Minister Roman interrupts, refers to certain chaotic demonstrations there. Then, Iliescu invites Prime Minister Roman to discuss separation of powers in state, the priorities of government.

More on Interview

AU1301230890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2202 GMT 13 Jan 90

["Flash News" — ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 13/1/1990 — A debate live broadcast by the Free Romanian Radio and Television Saturday evening [13 January] let Romania's citizens know a few important points on the current political, economic and social situation in the country given by NSF Council President Ion Iliescu, NSF Council First Vice-President Dumitru Mazilu and Prime Minister Petre Roman.

The debate had as a starting point the requests made by the participants in the meeting held the previous day in front of the NSF Council and Government headquarters.

President Ion Iliescu underscored the need and emergency to normalize life and stabilize the economic activity. He also referred to several specific aspects of the activity of NSF councils at a local level.

Professor Dumitru Mazilu gave a few points on the principles underlying the new electoral law and the stage of its elaboration. He stressed that the law is to be submitted to public debate.

In his address Prime Minister Petre Roman referred to the priorities in the Romanian economy mentioning a number of difficult problems which must be urgently solved, like the ensurance of electric power.

Asked to speak about the activity of the press, now free, President Ion Iliescu said the National Salvation Front did not control it in any way. The less could one speak about any kind of censorship. [as received] The Council's present concern is to abrogate the former press law and work out a new one in the shortest possible time for a good activity of the Romanian press. Encouraging criticism, the NSF Council President stated: Though no one likes to be criticized, we must submit ourselves to such a practice but not in a formal, declarative way.

More on Arrests of Ceausescu Family, Officials

Arrest of Brother, Children

AU1201213490 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 2100 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] The general prosecutor of Romania, Gheorghe Robu, stated in an interview that currently all the important players of the leadership of the Romanian Communist Party are under arrest and investigation. Their trial will begin within the next ten days. It was pointed out among other things that the dictator's brother, the head of the Securitate Training School in Bucharest, is under arrest and is being investigated by the General Prosecutor's Office. At the same time, the dictator's offspring, all three of them, are under arrest and their cases are in the final stages of the investigation. They will appear before the extraordinary military tribunals.

Arrest of Valentin Ceausescu

AU1301212790 Paris AFP in English 2045 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Bucharest, Jan 13 (AFP)—Valentin Ceausescu, one of the two sons of the executed Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, has been arrested, Romanian television reported Saturday evening.

The television showed undated footage of Valentin Ceausescu, a former Central Committee member, in handcuffs, accompanied by four prominent figures in the Ceausescu regime and surrounded by armed soldiers.

The dictator's other son Nicu and his daughter Zoe were arrested last month during the uprising that toppled the Ceausescu regime.

The television said Valentin Ceausescu had "led a life of luxury and idleness", promising that an investigation would soon bring to light how much money "stolen by (ex-president) Ceausescu" he had squandered.

"He will soon know the demands of the law," the television commentator said, without giving a date for a trial.

Valentin Ceausescu was shown with Emil Bobu, a confidant of the dictator and former Politburo member, Tudor Postelnicu, former interior minister, Marin Neagu, head of the dictator's personal bodyguard, and Dumitru Popescu, chief of the political academy.

The public prosecutor, Gheorghe Robu, said "the trial everyone is waiting for will be held in a second phase, at an unspecified date".

He said investigations were still in progress and "witnesses were being heard".

Further on Arrests

AU1301223190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2123 GMT 13 Jan 90

["Flash News"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 13/1/1990—The Free Romanian Television had a special broadcast on Saturday evening titled "Reflector" which presented the situation of some of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu's close assistants. For a time the Romanian TV watchers could see some of those who had important posts during Ceausescu's regime, now under arrest, in handcuffs. They could see, one by one, the former minister of the interior, Postelnicu, the former RCP organizational secretary, Emil Bobu, the former press and cultural secretary, Dumitru Popescu, the former head of the dictator's personal guard, General Neagoe, as well as Valentin, Ceausescu's eldest son.

Romania's Prosecutor-General Gheorghe Robu specified that the first dossiers of the tyrant's close assistants would be investigated by the relevant bodies the week to come.

People Call for Punishment of 'Terrorists'

AU1201213390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1931 GMT 12 Jan 90

["Newsflash"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 12/1/1990 —On Friday, January 12, at the close of the mourning ceremonies organized in various parts of Romania's capital, attended by tens of thousands of citizens, many of them went to the Victoria [Victory] Square where the Council of the National Salvation Front and the government have headquarters, shouting slogans that requested the punishment of the terrorists, of the communists guilty of the massacres committed during and after the Romanian revolution.

Numerous speakers from Bucharest, Timisoara, Brasov and Constanta mounted on a tank turned into a rostrum in the Victoria Square, expressing their discontent at the fact that there was still no information as to the number of the terrorists under arrest, the trials to start, at the fact that no reference was made to the rumors that a part of the those terrorists had been set free.

General Prosecutor Robu on Upcoming Trials

AU1401155090 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 0500 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] The general prosecutor of Romania, Gheorghe Robu, announces that the first groups of (?fanatical) accomplices of the (?odious terrorist dictator Nicu Ceausescu) will be sent to trial next week. He stated that in accordance with the principle of a real democracy and in order to fully elucidate the cases, dozens of searches and house searches were carried out, documents were seized, witnesses were heard and the accused were interrogated. The general prosecutor also revealed that difficulties were experienced regarding the confessions that must be written in person by the accused before their being heard by the Prosecutor. He did not state the number of the accused and noted that for the moment, it is difficult to give an estimate. The main thing is that political and administrative leaders of the former dictatorship, members of the tyrant's family, hundreds of terrorists are to appear before the tribunals, he said. All these are currently under arrest: Valentin Ceausescu, Emil Bobu, Manea Manescu, Tudor Postelnicu, Gen. Neagoe, Dumitru Popescu.

Regarding the finding of the thousands of martyrs of Timisoara, the general prosecutor said that, for the intensive searches in this town, additional manpower from both the General Prosecutor's Office, police and the Army have been concentrated while continuing to [words indistinct].

National Liberal Party Presents Platform

AU1301143890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1937 GMT 12 Jan 90

["Political Parties Introduce Themselves"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 12/01/1990—The new political parties in Romania are setting forth their political platforms. On Thursday evening members of the Democratic and Christian National Peasant Party announced the major targets of that party's programme on television. The new parties express their political ideas in existing newspapers as they have not created their own papers yet.

Professor Sorin Botez, member of the standing delegation, a body that coordinates the activity of the National Liberal Party, said the platform-programme of that party was provisional for the time being. Noteworthy among the targets it contains are the guarantee of individual freedom, the separation of powers in the state, the rehabilitation of democracy, freedom of expression and dissemination of opinion, the freedom of the press and the liquidation of censorship, the guarantee of the freedom of all religious denomination and the restoration of the Greek-Catholic church to its rights, the strict observance of the equal rights of all minorities, the abolition of collectivization and nationalization in agriculture and the creation of propitious conditions for agricultural property to go to those willing to have it, the gradual privatization of enterprises and their restructuring according to principles of profitability, as part of a market economy, the guarantee of the freedom of trade unions and of the right to strike, the gradual involvement of workers in the administration of enterprises and their partaking of profits. Furthermore, the National Liberal Party considers Romania should observe its obligations under the Warsaw Treaty and should resume and develop close friendly relations with its traditional allies.

Democratic Federation To Compete in Elections

LD1301142190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1300 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] The Democratic Federation of Magyars in Romania wishes to operate as an interest representation body, and as such it will put forward candidates at the spring elections. This is contained in the draft declaration which was submitted at the organization's first national delegate meeting in Marosvasarhely [Tirgu Mures].

The document points out that Magyardom in Romania, after helping the victory of the revolution, wishes to undertake an active part in forming the new democratic and pluralist society too. However, it rejects that it should continue the policy of half-solutions and successive renouncements in the matter of minorities.

National Liberal Party Announces Platform

AU1501192990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1847 GMT 15 Jan 90

["The National Liberal Party Introduces Itself"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 15/1/1990 — In an interview with "TINERETUL LIBER" Mr Radu Cimpeanu, secretary-general of the recently founded National Liberal Party, stated that its party intends to contribute to the restructuring of Romanian society in the spirit of the contemporary positive ideals and realities, militating for Romania's integration into tomorrow's Europe.

Specifying that his party was not "linked to any doctrine," Mr Cimpeanu said it promoted only "the principles specific to liberalism." This means "gradual privatization," the restructuring of industry "on the basis of viable, opportune and necessary branches," and "the distribution of land to peasants" without implying the formation of large properties.

The National Liberal Party expressed its wish to create an electoral alliance with the National Peasants' Party and the Social Democratic Party.

Parties Submit Applications for Registration

AU1501222790 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 2100 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] In accordance with the decree-law regarding the means of implementing political pluralism in Romania, the Bucharest municipal court has so far dealt favorably with the applications for the registration and functioning of the following parties: the National Christian Peasant Party, the Ecologist Movement of Romania, the Romanian Social Democratic Party, the National Liberal Party, the Christian Democratic Union, and the Democratic Party of Cluj.

The registration applications of the following are on the list and will be examined immediately: the Romanian Ecologist Party, the Party of Democratic Unity, and the Democratic Party of Romania.

NSF Interim Government Issues More Decree-Laws

CP, Death Penalty, Commission

AU1201204490 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1945 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Report on decree-laws issued by the National Salvation Front at the Foreign Affairs Ministry in Bucharest—live]

[Text] [Petre Roman] Following the meeting we had with the representatives appointed by you, three draft decree-laws have been drawn up. [First Vice President Dumitru] Mazilu will read them out so you can all hear them. [enthusiastic applause] The first decree-law refers to outlawing the Romanian Communist Party. [enthusiastic applause and chanting] Here is the text of the decree:

[Mazilu] On this day of national mourning, 12th January 1990, and taking into account the fact that the Communist Party has been confiscated by the dictatorship and became the instrument of political demagogy and organized lies as a method of governing by this dictatorship against the people, together with the people of good faith of the whole country, the nsf council decrees:

Sole Article: the Romanian Communist Party is outlawed [crowd shouts] as this party is against the national spirit and ancient law [legea stramoseasca]. Signed by the Executive Council of the National Salvation Front Council. [more applause and chanting]

The second decree-law refers to the death penalty. Please listen. [applause stops Mazilu from speaking] Please let me read out the text of the decree-law regarding the organizing and carrying out of the national referendum:

Taking into account the crimes carried out by the Ceausescu dictatorship, at the general request of the people:

Sole Article: on Sunday, 28th January 1990 a national referendum will be held throughout the Romanian territory for the reintroduction in the penal code of the death penalty [crowds become excited] so as to punish as one should all those guilty of crimes against the people. [enthusiastic shouting]. The third decree will be read by Mr. Mazilu. [prolonged chanting]

[Mazilu] Third decree-law: Taking into account the many difficulties faced by the population because of the disastrous heritage left to us by the dictatorship—all this is being televised at this moment, believe me, all is shown on TV right now, look at the TV screens and you will see, let me resume reading out the third decree-law— taking into account the many difficulties faced by the population because of the disastrous heritage left to us by the dictatorship, the NSF council decrees: The national commission for the solving of all complaints and requests of all citizens of the country who suffered because of this dictatorship is set up. [chanting] This commission will function directly under the leadership of the NSF. [applause]

Commission Answering Complaints

AU1301140190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0840 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Decree-law issued by the Council of the National Salvation Front's Executive Bureau in Bucharest on 13 January]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/01/1990—Taking into account the many difficulties the population has to cope with because of the disastrous heritage of the dictatorship, the National Salvation Front Council decrees:

A National Commission is established to answer the intimations and requests of all the citizens of the country who were victim of the dictatorship.

This Commission is placed directly under the management of the National Salvation Front.

Executive Bureau

of the National Salvation Front Council

Holding National Referendum

AU1301143590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0838 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Decree-law issued by the Council of the National Salvation Front's Executive Bureau in Bucharest on 13 January]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/01/1990—In consideration of the crimes perpetrated by Ceausescu's dictatorship,

Upon the people's general request,

The National Salvation Front Council decrees:

Sunday 28 January 1990 a National Referendum is organized throughout the territory of Romania to reinstate the death penalty to the criminal code in order to mete out to all the persons guilty of crimes against the people the punishment they deserve.

Executive Bureau

Of the National Salvation Front Council

'Discriminatory Conditions' on Army

AU1301163090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1425 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 13/1/1990 —A number of decrees signed by Ion Iliescu, president of the National Salvation Front Council, were released in Bucharest. They cancel several normative acts that imposed forced labour or discriminatory conditions on the soldiers in the Romanian Army.

Furthermore, the pensions of the officers that worked with the former state security department and the other security units that entered the composition of the Defence Ministry should be computed according to equivalent offices in the Defence Ministry.

At the same time, payment terms for the military and civilian personnel in the defence ministry and the ministry of the interior were amended.

Abrogates Old Legislation

AU1301163590 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1100 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] New decree-law promulgated by the NSF Council:

In order to remove from the legislation of regulations promulgated by the old dictatorial regime regarding exceptional railway transportation conditions for the former dictator and his family and also in order to eradicate those normative acts which imposed forced labor or discriminatory conditions on the soldiers of our armed forces, the NSF decrees:

Sole article: the following normative regulations are and remain abrogated: decree number 70 of 7 March 1978 approving the regulation regarding the organization, preparation and the carrying out of railway transportation of exceptional importance; decree number 35 of 25 January 1979 regarding the granting of scholarships for the students of the military schools within the Ministries of National Defence and of the Interior; decree number 108 of 22 April 1981 regarding the rights of the staff participating in the organization, preparation and carrying out of flights of exceptional importance; decree number 9 of 12 January 1983 regarding the rights granted to the soldiers and reserve NCOs called on duty to carry out work in the national economy; decree number 210 of 29 August 1987 regarding certain measures in connection with the carrying out of construction work at the Casa Republicii [Republic House] building site; decree number 57 of 23 February 1988 regarding certain measures aimed at improving the loading-unloading and dispatch of goods and eradication of immobilization of transportation means. Decree signed by NSF Council President, Ion Iliescu.

State-Owned Housing Regulations

AU1401211790 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 2000 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] We present to you the decree-law regarding punishment for squatting in state-owned dwellings:

During and after the victory of the popular revolution of December 1989, some people who misunderstood the meaning and aims of the revolution, and disregarded the provisions of the law, illegally occupied accommodations belonging to the state-owned housing reserve without taking into account the fact that many citizens whose houses were destroyed during the revolution have nowhere to live and that, in the present circumstances, through such action they seriously harm law and order regarding the allocation of houses.

Taking into account all this, the NSF Council decrees:

Article 1. The taking over of a state-owned house before the renting contract is concluded represents an offense which is punishable by one to three years imprisonment.

Article 2. The unit which is managing or is going to take over the management of the respective house is duty bound to inform the bodies which follow up penal offenses that the offense included in Article 1 has been committed whenever the case.

Article 3. The investigation and trying of persons for offenses committed under Article 1 is done urgently according to procedure related to flagrant offenses. If the persons coming under Article 1 vacate the house on their own initiative, the investigation or court case will be stopped, and if the vacating occurs after the sentence is final, the sentence will not be carried out.

Decree-law on Pardons

AU1601091790 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 2000 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] The Council of the NSF [National Salvation Front] has issued the following decree-law on commuting certain sentences:

Article 1. Prison sentences and measures regarding sending persons to a special labour and re-education school, that apply to minors, are commuted in full.

Article 2. The following persons do not benefit from the provisions of Article 1: those who, being in the leadership or in the service of the former dictatorial regime and working actively to suppress human freedoms and rights, to fulfill other aims of this regime, and to secure benefits or avoid responsibility, have perpetrated offenses against peace, the human race, and the state. Those persons also do not benefit from the provisions of Article 1 who are responsible for the illegal suppression of freedom, abuse of power, corncerning regulations on the use of weapons, ammunition, and explosives, and offenses against regulations on protecting certain goods, terrorist actions, as well as those responsible for concealing and abetting these offenses.

The following persons also do not benefit from Article 1: recidivists, those who have committed the offenses of murder, infliction of injuries leading to death, serious bodily harm, rape—as provided for by Article 197 paragraph two and three in the Penal Code —and theft directed against private, personal, or public property, those who have committed other deliberate offenses against public property with serious or exceptionally serious consequences, and persons responsible for abuse of power directed against the public interest provided for by Article 248 paragraph two of the Penal Code, and those responsible for accepting bribes, intercession, illegal arrest and abusive investigation, mistreatment, unfair repression, and escaping from prison.

Article 3. In the cases in which a judicial investigation or the court case is in progress, the penal court case will start or, where applicable, will continue and after the penalty is established, the provisions of the present decree-law referring to pardoning will be applied.

Article 4. Those who are pardoned and who carry out another deliberate offense within 3 years, will incur both the sentence for the respective offense as well as the sentence or the part which was not served following the application of the present decree-law.

Article 5. The dispositions of the present decree-law are only applicable to offenses committed before or on 22nd December 1989.

Prime Minister Announces New Appointments

AU1401190490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1756 GMT 14 Jan 90

["New Ministers Have Been Appointed"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 14/1/1990—By decisions signed by Romania's prime minister, Petre Roman, Andro Horvath was named deputy minister of culture, Marin Nicolae Capisizu, deputy minister of the national economy, and Alexandru Radocea, vice chairman of the National Commission of Statistics.

New Foreign Ministry State Secretary

AU1301141090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1248 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Decree on the appointment of a secretary of state in the Foreign Ministry, issued by National Salvation Front Council President Ion Iliescu on 13 January]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 13/1/1990—Under a decree signed by Ion Iliescu, president of the National Salvation Front Council, Nicolae Vladimir was appointed secretary of state in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

ROMPRES Reports First Free Poll

AU1201233090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1657 GMT 12 Jan 90

["Romania: the First Free Poll" —ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 12/1/1990 —A poll was taken upon the initiative of the Centre of Sociological Research of the Bucharest University in connection with the main items of the National Salvation Front's Platform-Program between December 26 and 30,1989. A first free poll.

The poll was taken with 1,231 persons, men and women, of various ages and professions.

Of the total, 62 percent declared for a multi-party system, six percent for one-party system and two percent for a political system with no parties. 16 percent were hesitant while 14 percent referred to general aspects of the pluralist democratic system, without mentioning political parties.

As regarded the date of the free elections, 55 percent were for April, 32 percent for postpoining them and four percent for earlier elections.

Questioned about what the forms of ownership ought to be in future in Romania, 58 percent opined that the national economy ought to rely upon three forms of ownership: state, cooperative and private. 24 percent thought that only state and private property would be necessary, six percent were for state and cooperative property, etc. Worth mentioning is that the intellectuals, more than the workers, technicians and office workers, opted for the existence of all three forms of ownership.

Weekly Denies Hungarian Nationality Strife

LD1301125590 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] A Romanian weekly published in Hungarian denied that nationality quarrels took place in Transylvania. The paper of the Hungarian workers in Romania, the VALOSAG [REALITY] writes verbatim: Certain individuals who were pushed to the periphery are trying to regain their power by vile means.

They attack the new Romanian leadership with well-timed scare- mongering and floods of complaints. The paper interviewed (Imre Pataki), president of the Harghita County Salvation Front, who also denied that soldiers were sent to Miercurea Ciuc and Odorheiu Secuiescu to halt the Hungarian-Romanian clashes.

The politician said that in Transylvania, life has been going on in an orderly manner since the first days of the revolution. There were not nationality clashes and there are not any now either. This was also ascertained by the representatives of the Council of the National Salvation Front who arrived from Bucharest, said (Imre Pataki).

Officials Visit Bern in Search for Missing Money

LD1201222990 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1930 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Geneva, Jan 12 (TANJUG)—The Romanian Embassy in Bern today categorically denied what the Swiss daily TRIBUNE DE GENEVA wrote about the shredding of certain documents in the records office in the Romanian Embassy and U.N. Mission in Geneva since the writing is being linked to the Swiss bank accounts of the late dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

The embassy today also said that two experts of the new Romanian Government arrived in Switzerland on Monday and that they are searching for the millions which the Ceausescu clan embezzled. It has been announced that the Swiss Government blocked all of Ceausescu's accounts in Swiss banks on December 22.

The Romanian ambassador today appealed to Romanian emigrants in Switzerland to help in the search for around four billion dollars which Ceausescu is believed to have deposited on his accounts and in secret safes in Swiss banks.

State of Electric Grid System 'Extremely Grave'

AU1301194090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1442 GMT 13 Jan 90

["The National Electric Grid System— A First-Degree Alarm"— ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 13/1/1990 —The state of Romania's electric grid system is extremely grave owing to a sudden decline in the amount of power generated by coalfiring thermoelectric plants, which lack raw materials (in the first decade of January daily average coal consumption was twice larger than the production the miners turned out). As a result, a number of industrial units partially stopped their activity.

This situation is the equivalent of a first-degree alarm, says newspaper "ADEVARUL".

FRG Foreign Minister Makes Official Visit

Genscher Arrives in Bucharest

AU1501121490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0950 GMT 15 Jan 90

["Genscher Arrives in Bucharest"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 15/1/1990—West German Vice- Chancellor and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher arrived in Bucharest on 15 January for a two-day visit in Romania upon the invitation of Romanian Foreign Minister Sergiu Celac.

At Otopeni Airport the guest was welcomed by the Romanian foreign minister and other officials.

Klaus Terfloth, FRG ambassador to Bucharest attended.

Meets Iliescu, Roman

LD1501114390 Hamburg DPA in German 1114 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Bucahrest (DPA)—Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher is the first representative of the Federal Government to start talks today in Bucharest with the provisional Romanian leadership. Genscher, who brought four tonnes of baby food, medicines, and medical equipment in his Luftwaffe special aircraft, went to the Foreign Ministry immediately upon arival, where he met the President of the National Salvation Front Ion Iliescu, Prime Minister Petre Roman, and Foreign Minister Serqiu Celac.

The German aircraft landed with a heavy guard of helicopters and heavily-armed tank units. Thousands of soldiers guarded the 15-kilometer route from the airport to the city center.

Genscher hopes to gain an overview of the political stability in the country. The focal point of his numerous meetings tomorrow is one with representatives of the German minority. Primarily the FRG foreign minister intends to gain a picture of the most urgent aid measures needed.

More on Meeting Leaders

AU1501151390 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1400 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Vice-Chancellor and Foreign Affairs Minister of the FRG, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, arrived in Bucharest today for a 2-day visit at the invitation of the Romanian Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergiu Celac.

In a statement to Romanian and foreign journalists present at the airport, the Vice-chancellor and German foreign minister expressed great satisfaction at finding himself in Romania these days and of being able to directly address to the Romanian people his full compassion and enormous respect for the victory scored in the fight for freedom, justice, and dignity. He added that during the visit he will find out the extent of the aid Romania needs in this period after the revolution, and he made it clear that emergency aid for the sorely tried Romanian people has already arrived in Romania today.

After the talks he had shortly after his arrival with the NSF [National Salvation Front] president, Ion Iliescu, Prime Minister Petre Roman and Foreign Affairs Minister Sergiu Celac, Vice-Chancellor and Foreign Affairs Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher again met with the Romanian foreign affairs minister. On this occasion, they discussed certain aspects of Romanian-West German cooperation in the spirit of top-level understandings.

Talks Held With Genscher

AU1501222490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2037 GMT 15 Jan 90

["Romanian-West German Talks in Bucharest"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 15/01/1990—On 15 January, the president of the Council of the National Salvation Front [NSF], Ion Iliescu, and Prime Minister Petre Roman received successively Hans-Dietrich Genscher, vice-chancellor and minister for foreign affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, who paid an official visit to Romania.

Questions of current interest to both sides were approached during the talks also attended by Deputy Prime Minister Gelu Voican Voiculescu, Foreign Minister Sergiu Celac, Mircea Mitran, deputy minister of foreign affairs, and Klaus Torrolth, ambassador of West Germany in Bucharest.

The president of the Council of the National Salvation Front and the prime minister informed about the democratic revolution in Romania—fruit of the spirit of sacrifice of the masses of people of all nationalities, and first of all of the youth—the steps taken by the NSF and the government, by the new power bodies on a political, economic and social plane to promote democracy in all areas, to ensure the observance of human rights and freedoms. Reference was also made to the problems and difficulties confronting the Romanian economy, the ways and solutions envisaged for the country's reconstruction, and the re-establishment of a civil society in this country.

The president of the Council of the NSF, Ion Iliescu, said that the NSF was made up of most of the democratic forces of the country, regardless of nationality, and specified that its platform included express provisions regarding the observance of the rights and freedoms of the national minorities and the guaranteeing of their full equality of rights alongside the Romanians.

H.D. Genscher conveyed a salute and the best wishes from Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker and Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl, and was appreciative of the deep-going transformations that occurred in Romania, expressing sympathy and solidarity with the efforts of the Romanian people towards the establishment of democracy, freedom and human dignity.

The Romanian side expressed gratitude to President Richard von Weizsaecker, to Chancellor Helmut Kohl, to the government and the population of the Federal Republic of Germany for their sympathy and solidarity materialized in the emergency humanitarian aid granted to Romania.

Both sides highlighted the fact that the democratic transformations in Romania opened new prospects for the relations between the two countries, for the resumption of the normal course of cooperation in all areas of mutual interest.

In the afternoon Romanian Foreign Affairs Minister Sergiu Celac had talks with Hans-Dietrich Genscher, vice-chancellor and minister for foreign affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The two ministers approached on the occasion specific aspects of the links between the two countries, the directions of the development of the cooperation between Romania and West Germany on all planes.

Genscher Attends News Conference

AU1501221990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1846 GMT 15 Jan 90

["Hans-Dietrich Genscher's Press Conference"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 15/01/1990—After this visit to Romania, together with the foreign minister of France Roland Dumas, we are to suggest at the special conference in Dublin how the European Economic Community can assist your country, stated Hans-Dietrich Genscher, vice-chancellor and minister for foreign affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, at a press conference held at the Intercontinental Hotel of Bucharest on Monday 15 January.

Genscher specified that he came to Romania for three reasons: to express political support to the democratization process under way, to offer material support for the revigoration of the situation in the country and to contribute to the improvement of the status of the minorities in Romania. He voiced West Germany's interest in the improvement of the conditions of the German minority in Romania. Our gates are open, he said, but we do not encourage the Germans to leave this country. Hans-Dietrich Genscher stressed in that context the interest and sense of responsibility with which the present leaders of Romania approach the question of the rights of the minorities.

Answering a question regarding new Romania's place in Europe, the West German foreign minister said: During the broad exchange of opinions I have had in Bucharest I could note that new Romania is resolved to take part in the processes pursuing the establishment of a peaceful order in Europe based on the observance of human rights and of the laws of democracy.

Also taking part in the press conference were Hans Schumacher, spokesman of the West German Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Klaus Terfloth, West Germany's ambassador in Bucharest, Sergiu Celac, Romania's foreign minister, and Romulus Neagu, deputy minister and spokesman of the Romanian Foreign Affairs Ministry.

Celac, Genscher Meet

AU1601095790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2241 GMT 15 Jan 90

["Reception"—ROMPRES]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 15/01/1990—On Monday evening Romania's Foreign Minister Sergiu Celac and the Vice-Chancellor and Foreign Minister of West Germany Hans-Dietrich Genscher met again during a reception at the Intercontinental Hotel.

Genscher Meets Opposition Parties

AU1601095490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2239 GMT 15 Jan 90

["Interviews"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 15/01/1990—On Monday in the afternoon, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, vice chancellor and minister for foreign affairs of the Fèderal Republic of Germany, successively met with the delegations of the German community in Romania, the Democratic and Christian National Peasant Party, the National Liberal Party, and the Group for Social Dialogue. The guest also met with poet Mircea Dinescu.

The delegation of the Democratic and Christian National Peasant Party set forth their programme and the immediate and long-term targets of their policy for the privatization of the economy, the restitution of land to farmers, the freedoms of man and of the Romanian society, while the delegation of the National Liberal Party referred to the principles under their draft programme, which they showed to be identical with those of the Free Democratic Party of West Germany.

During the interviews with the delegations of the aforesaid parties, Mr. Hans-Dietrich Genscher inquired into the current situation in Romania, the difficulties encountered in various areas, in the economy in particular, and assured his collocutors of West Germany's further palpable support to Romania.

Genscher Views Minorities Issue

LD1501174190 Hamburg DPA in German 1533 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Excerpts] Bucharest (DPA)—Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, who began a 2-day visit to Romania today, stressed in first political talks in Bucharest, the priority of the problem posed by the minorities. Genscher is the first representative of the FRG to establish contacts with the provisional government of the National Salvation Front [NSF]. Genscher has also met representatives of the Romanian Germans, whom he plans to visit in Sibiu and Timisoara tomorrow.

Safeguarding the rights of the minorities, above all of human rights, was linked by Genscher with aid for Romania. At a press conference, at which his counterpart Sergiu Celac guaranteed complete freedom of travel, Genscher stressed the concern of the FRG for "fundamental improvements in living conditions" of the Romanian Germans. Entry into the FRG shall naturally not be denied them, but Bonn certainly does not want to encourage anyone to leave his home. [passage omitted]

Last year around 23,000 Romanian Germans emigrated to the FRG. During the period of the "emigration ransom" imposed by the Ceausescu regime—latterly around 8,000 marks per person—Bonn, in 1989 alone, paid around 187 million marks. Foreign Minister Sergiu Celac denied any knowledge of this "criminal practice" and declined to confirm allegations that this money had passed to the private accounts of the dictator.

Genscher announced in Bucharest that the EC foreign ministers plan to review in Dublin at the weekend the necessary aid for Romania. In the event of democratic reforms Romania can count firmly on German and Western aid. Genscher expressed himself impressed by the "seriousness and responsibility" of the Romanian leadership. He spoke today, at the start of his visit, with President of the NSF Ion Iliescu, Prime Minister Petre Roman and Foreign Minister Celac.

At the press conference, Genscher recommended that the churches decide in favor of a "truly ecumenical path." [passage omitted]

UN Human Rights Official Asks To Visit

AU1201151890 Paris AFP in English 1449 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Geneva, Jan 12 (AFP)—The rapporteur of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, Joseph Voyame, has asked the new government in Romania to authorise a visit following the overthrow of Nicolae Ceausescu, a U.N. spokesman said here Friday.

A similar request by Mr. Voyame last year was turned down by the Ceausescu regime.

In a letter to the new authorities in Bucharest, Mr. Voyame said that in view of the removal of the former regime, it would be appropriate for them to cooperate with the U.N. Commission in examining the human rights situation in the country.

The Commission is to meet here for its annual session on January 29.

Broadcast of Independent Bucharest Radio Station

LD1301144490 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1130 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Since yesterday, an independent radio station has been operating in Bucharest. The broadcasting station was founded by the city's University Student Federation, with the help of equipment received from France.

New Magazine VIATA CAPITALEI Published

AU1501230590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1803 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 15/1/1990—The first issue of "VIATA CAPITALEI" ("CAPITAL'S LIFE") has been put out in Bucharest, a social-cultural weekly of the Bucharest Municipal Committee of the NSF [National Salvation Front]. The editorial board informs readers that "VIATA CAPITALEI" replaces a disgraced publication "SAPTAMINA CULTURALA A CAPITALEI", directed by Eugen Barbu, a character whom the magazine staff and technical workers repudiated definitely from the first days of revolution, the same as they repudiated his personal associate Corneliu Vadim Tudor.

In its first issue, January 13, 1990, the magazine, comprising prestigious signatures like those of Mircea Micu, Gheorghe Tomozei, Ion Lancranjean, etc, carries extensive coverages in making Mihai Eminescu's birth anniversary. Numerous articles refer to the dramatic destiny of the national culture in the years of the dictatorship.

The weekly inaugurates a string of sections of wide audience—young music, sports, theater, movies.

Interviews with personalities of the Bucharest cultural life on the priorities in museums, libraries, in other cultural and artistic establishments are also published.

Media Responds to Reported Unrest in Albania

'All Quiet' in Border Area

AU1601105790 Ljubljana DELO in Slovene 15 Jan 90 p 4

[Dejan Vodovnik and Zoran Antonovski report: "All Quiet on the Albanian Border"]

[Excerpt] Cafasan, Athens, 14 Jan—If we are to judge by the traffic on the Yugoslav-Albanian border checkpoint Cafasan near Lake Ohrid, we could assert that nothing extraordinary is going on in Albania. If, however, we are to judge by what has been noted by the Yugoslav border military authorities that are in charge of the Cafasan border checkpoint, we could say that something is happening.

Yugoslav military border patrols have noticed that instead of the usual two men in the Albanian patrol, as many as seven have been patrolling since last night along the Yugoslav-Albanian border, and they are better armed than in previous days. On the other hand, the Yugoslav border organs at the Cafasan customs post, at an altitude of 1050 meters, have not noticed anything special, as we learned during our almost 24-hour "tour of duty" at this border checkpoint.

As usual, the border was crossed by some trucks in transit, as well as the Albanian mail truck that brings international mail to Struga for forwarding. Early in the morning during our Saturday visit, we could also see a diplomatic car, of the DPRK, which—as we have learned—brings a few embassy employees from Albania to shop in Struga every Saturday. "If they did not come, we could certainly say that something was happening in Albania," Yugoslav customs officials and militiamen told us.

Among those who did not notice anything during a trip through Albania that lasted several days was Bulgarian truck driver Geno Gencev, who drove all the way from Tirana and Shkoder to Cafasan and still had the long way to Sofia ahead of him. "There is no trace of a state of emergency that you are talking about," he said.

Our question about a state of emergency in Albania also surprised the driver of a West German truck who heard about the supposed revolution in Albania from reports on Deutsche Welle radio. The only ones who would not talk to journalists were Albanian truck drivers. But they are always taciturn, Yugoslav border officials commented.

We may also mention the main newscast on Albanian television, which according to those who regularly watch Albanian television programs has not changed in days or months.

This is how it was on our side of the Albanian border. It is different in Athens. "The people in Shkoder have rebelled. The Army together with Sigurimi [security force] are dealing with the people, and therefore there have been many dead and wounded. There are riots in Korce and other places. The Albanian Army is in a state of alert, emergency measures have been introduced." This is stated by the first eyewitness to the events in Albania, Albert Xeka, aged 20, member of the Albanian Army and Sigurimi, who succeeded in escaping abroad. Greek papers says that he escaped to Greece on Tuesday and asked for political asylum.

Reports on events in Albania are still very confused and there is no reliable information. With the exception of the defecting border guard's testimony, the Greek press relies chiefly on reports in the Yugoslav media, but every article exudes alarm and concern for the fate of the Greek minority. It is constantly said that this group will be the first to suffer in case of any major upheaval. [passage omitted]

Border Traffic, Situation Noted

AU1501175490 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 14 Jan 90 p 14

[Stevan Zec and Dragomir Becirovic report: "Albanian Border Guards Played Soccer"]

[Excerpts] Bozaj, near Tuzi, 13 Jan—Cecovic, a militiaman at the Bozaj border crossing to Albania near Tuzi, about 10 km away from Titograd, was surprised at the behavior of soldiers on the Albanian side of the border crossing. They permitted 10 civilians to go as far as their border barrier and to shout to relatives standing at our border crossing.

About 2 months ago, a military helicopter went down in northern Albania and more than 30 people perished. The casualties of this air accident were proclaimed meritorious fighters for socialism (Albanian socialism, of course).

It was only 2 days ago that two Yugoslav citizens of Albanian nationality from Tuzi—the aunt and uncle of one of those who had died in the helicopter crash—were granted an Albanian entrance visa in order to be able to express their condolences to their family there. Relatives in the People's Socialist Republic of Albania accompanied them to the border at Bozaj at around noon today, which explains this moving meeting and discussion among about 20 people on both sides of the border. The conversation was, in fact, a matter of them shouting at each other because the border authorities allowed the two groups to be 20 meters apart.

Carrots for Poland

Yesterday, on the 12th day of 1990, the first freight truck left Albania at this border crossing. Trucks have not transported anything out of Albania to Europe for more than 2 weeks, so this was one of the supposed indicators that something is happening in this country.

When the newspapers first began to write that there was a state of emergency in Albania, the Albanian soldiers began to play soccer at the border barrier. I cannot remember the last time I saw that, one of the militiamen from the Bozaj border crossing told us.

When one crosses from Yugoslavia at Bozaj into Albanian territory, all cars have to drive through a special ditch for their wheels to be disinfected, as if it is dirty here and clean over there.

Fenced-in Lake

We unofficially discovered from officials on our side of the border crossing that they had the impression that something was changing 2 years ago. Simply, Albanian long-distance truck drivers began to smuggle technical and luxury goods, which had earlier been unimaginable.

The road which joins Titograd and Shkoder reaches the shores of Shkoder Lake at this border crossing of Bozaj. On the Albanian side, one can see low-power "patrol boats" which the authorities use to guard their small freight ships. At most, three to four people can stand in these boats. The deep bay of the lake, whose shores enter Albanian territory, is fenced in along its length (almost a kilometer) by quite densely-packed wooden logs between which there is a thick net from the surface of the water to the bottom of the lake. In this part of Shkoder Lake, not even the fish can cross over into Yugoslav waters.

Vlahovic, a militiaman who has been at this border crossing for more than 2 years, bears witness to the fact that shooting can often be heard from the Albanian side. Experts on circumstances in Albania say that there are frequent Army maneuvers there and it is an almost unbelievable fact that along the wide border area between Bozaj and Shkoder there are many thousands of small bunkers (for two to three soldiers) whose gunsights are turned and fixed on the SFRY. [passage omitted]

The Albanian totalitarian regime does not have dual executive power (a separate Army from the police, as was the case with Romania) but this is a unified state-security organism which seems to be directly and actually but not officially commanded by Nexhmije Hoxha, the widow of the former dictator. Many people think that while she is alive there will be no democracy in Albania.

Commentary on Political Situation

AU1401214290 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0900 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Dragan Petrovic commentary from the "Sunday at 10" program]

[Text] The events in Romania have exposed Albania as the only and last defender of socialism in its Stalinist form in Europe. Last week there were rumors that something is happening in Albania. In contrast to previous practice, Tirana quickly denied everything. However, because of Albania's relatively successful isolation, it is not possible to establish whether the reported events were true or whether they were only wishful thinking. Here is a commentary by Dragan Petrovic:

If one distinguishes between the world's wishful thinking and the meager facts which we have on events in Albania, it is still a fact that Albania'a leadership is finding it increasingly difficult to defend its position as a guardian and the only true interpreter of Marxism and Leninism from the winds of change blowing in East European countries.

The Albanian leadership has remained critical of these changes. However, as these changes were happening in Poland, Hungary, East Germany, the CSSR, and Bulgaria, nervousness grew in Tirana and culminated with events in Romania. The (?Albanian leadership) confirmed its loyalty to the present course, while ideologists tried to convince, above all, themselves, and only then the Albanian people that it was revisionism which was in the crisis, and not socialism which, according to them, is only being built in Albania.

However, the Albanian leadership is finding this increasingly difficult, because it has found itself trapped between a very difficult situation in the country and the expectations of younger generations in particular.

In their attempt to predict a possible course of developments in Albania, analysts look for differences and similarities between Ceausescu's Romania and Albania. The similarity lies in the fact that these two countries have repressive regimes which rely on security, the police, and the Army. The similarity also lies in the fact that in Ceausescu's Romania and present-day Albania there are no democratic freedoms and human rights, not even in their elementary form. The economic situation in both of these countries is disastrous. The archaic and now completely obsolete principle of economic self-sufficiency has been complete exhausted. Both countries have a very low, if not the lowest standard of living. However, this is the point where differences begin. This is the point where the fruits of Albania's 40 years of isolation begin to play their role. Being excluded from what has been happening in the world, the Albanians can hardly be associated with modern achievements, even those in the closest neighborhood. Romania had not been isolated in this way. An Albanian does not remember better times and he is less and less worse off, that is (?to say better off). On the other hand, the Romanians remember better days than those to which they were led by Ceausescu, especially in the last decade.

All reservations and the unenviability of the job of predicting the further course of developments in Albania aside, one could mainly talk about three options. The first is that the present regime can last by making certain cosmetic changes. The second is the Bulgarian variant according to which fundamental changes would take place under the leading role of the Albanian Workers Party and Ramiz Alia as a reformer who would be prescribing the speed, depth, and width of changes in order to prevent the dissatisfied people from assuming this role themselves. The third variant is a dramatic one, namely a general uprising and the overthrow of the regime.

In a country as isolated and xenophobic as Albania, perhaps a combination of the first two variants could still be acceptable by the majority of the population, but one should not underestimate the strength of the dissatisfied people.

Every change in Albania would certainly affect Yugoslav-Albanian relations and their most delicate part, Kosovo. Along with a generally positive view toward a possible democratization in Albania, one should also mention that it is difficult to imagine that Albania would change its stand toward Kosovo. The familiar Albanian behavior has been going on for too long to expect sudden, quick, or any changes in this respect.

The fact is that the Albanian emigres and Prince Leka, despite the fact that they are the most vociferous when it comes to Ramiz Alia and the Albanian Workers Party, hold identical views on Kosovo to those held by the leadership in Tirana.

Another factor concerning possible democratization in Albania that should be borne in mind is the disappearance of some objectively extenuating circumstances for separatists in Kosovo and the attractiveness of their ideas. One should not compare the democratic freedoms and rights enjoyed by Albanians in Kosovo with those living in Albania. However, the democratization in Albania would gradually eliminate these differences. The third factor that should be taken into account considering democratization in Albania is the right to practice religion. One must bear in mind the fact that under the present conditions Albania is the only country in Europe in which the Muslim population constitutes the majority.

Recent Events Viewed

AU1301180290 Titograd POBJEDA in Serbo-Croatian 4 Jan 90 p 10

[Goran Ranitovic article: "How Long the Regime in Albania Will Hold: Ever Deeper Cracks"]

[Text] Belgrade, 3 Jan—Is it Albania's turn? This question is being asked lately by the international public, particularly after the bloody but effective destruction of the Ceausescu dictatorship. Of course they are also being asked among the Albanians themselves, although much more loudly among the Albanians outside (Albanian associations in France and Sweden have made themselves heard) than inside "the only truly socialist country in the world," where public thinking about democratic changes entails long prison terms and "socialist reeducation."

Albania recently attracted the attention of the international public when Athens reported how four Greeks who dared to attempt to escape from the "Marxists-Leninist paradise" to Greece were criminally dealt with. After being tortured, they were tied to tractors by ropes around their necks and were dragged in the road until they died. It was like a scenario of medieval inquisition. This report which was published in Athens was, as usual, denied by official Tirana, but a representative of the Greek Embassy in Albania was not allowed to visit the village in which the hapless Prasos brothers were torn to pieces. It is clear why not.

System Overtaken by Time

A former official of the Albanian Ministry for Internal Affairs took care to make the scenario of the "Land of the Eagles" indeed resemble a novel. Neshat Tozaj, a newly emerged writer, wrote a novel, "Thikat" (Knives), in which he described agents of the Albanian secret police, "Sigurimi," submitting a mentally deranged woman to beastly torture, all for the purpose of accusing her of collaboration with foreign secret services. It seems one should "rally the ranks" before the enemy that threatens to gobble up "the oasis of socialism."

Neshat Tozaj did not end up in prison because of several mitigating circumstances. One can conclude from the novel that the action does not take place in the present but in the past, and all the former Albanian police ministers and heads of "Sigurimi" ended on the "rubbish heap of history." Koci Xoxe, Mehmet Shehu, Kadri Hazbiu, Fecor Shehu, and others perished in bloody purges, and they were all "traitors and spies." Secondly, Tozaj's novel was praised by premier Albanian writer Ismail Kadare in the literary magazine DRITA. "A society that denounces evil marches toward progress," Kadare said and added that the problem of democracy, and of respect for the law and human rights, was important for Albania. Third, the novel was printed in a very small number of copies and was in fact accessible only to a small group of people.

Nothing happens by accident in life, and especially not in Albania, and this novel's publication must be taken as a certain sign of some trends, but their significance should not be exaggerated. It is certain that the Albanian system has long been overtaken by time, but for the time being one does not see any forces strong enough to set anything radical in motion. The sporadic outbursts and even workers' protests which are brutally put down (reports filtered out last year that they occurred in Korce, and this fall in Shkoder) are invisible to the Albanian people.

Albania Is No Romania

Albania is no Romania. Albania is even more closed than the former fief of the Ceausescu dynasty. In a country with a population of only 3.2 million, the possibilities of control are much greater and there are certainly enough policemen. The big powers are not much interested in changes in that country. Albania is not important either politically or economically in international affairs, and, from the military viewpoint, both sides are in favor of "status quo" in the Otranto Strait.

The Albanians in Albania have been significantly encouraged by the Albanian associations in France and Switzerland, the former requesting French diplomatic moves in regard to a change of the Stalinist regime in Albania, and the latter calling on the Albanians to protest against the "clique" of Nexhmije Hoxha and Ramiz Alia.

One should know, however, that the Albanian emigrants are split and that they have not been doing anything of importance to overthrow the Tirana regime for a long time. Moreover, for some time now, a tacit alliance has existed between the emigrants and official Tirana on the joint battle for the "Kosovo-Republic" and against Yugoslavia.

Albanian Separatists Increase Activity in Kosovo

LD1301010490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1728 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Pristina, January 12 (TANJUG)—Ethnic-Albanian separatists and chauvinists in the Yugoslav Autonomous Province of Kosovo are acting daily and aggressively and hostile actions have spread across the province of late, as President of the Kosovo Assembly Djordje Bozovic stated today.

In a talk with the presidents of all Kosovo communes in the provincial capital of Pristina, Bozovic said that over 800 slogans and pamphlets advocating ethnic-Albanian separatism and chauvinism and over 1600 attacks on Serbs and Montenegrins and 100 attacks on the property of Serbs and Montenegrins, 20 arsons (?and 68) acts of sabotages—of which 28 against military facilities, and 78 cases of the stoning of trains and buses were recorded last year.

President of the Kosovo Assembly Bozovic said that the street protests of ethnic-Albanian separatists are in the largest (?majority of) cases synchronized with acts of sabotage and that the hostile activities usually escalate at the time of important political events in the country. He said that the strikes in Kosovo were organized for political purposes. Of late, ethnic-Albanian separatists have been resorting to terrorism, too. Their goal is to have an ethnically pure Kosovo, to have Kosovo proclaimed a republic and, ultimately, to have it break away from Yugoslavia and (?join Albania).

Fleeing from constant threats and pressures and an atmosphere of fear and hatred, 45,000 Serbs and Montenegrins have moved out of Kosovo since 1981. Last year alone, 1,500 Kosovo Serbs and Montenegrins moved to other parts of the country. Of late, Croats, (?Romanians) and ethnic Turks have also begun to leave the Province of Kosovo, which is a part of Yugoslavia's largest Republic of Serbia.

Ambassador Protests Greek Border Restrictions

LD1201223990 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1825 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Athens, January 12 (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Ambassador in Athens Milan Milutinovic today visited the Greek Foreign Ministry and communicated Yugoslavia's protest, in which an explanation is requested of the Greek side why are Greek border authorities denying entry to Yugoslav citizens whose visas are in order.

The past four days alone, over 750 Yugoslavs, predominantly Macedonians, were turned back from the Greek border, where Greek border authorities insisted that they must have between 500 and 1,000 West German marks when entering Greece. According to the explanations offered in Greece, the measure was taken to prevent the illegal employment of Yugoslavs in Greece.

Ambassador Milutinovic pointed out that the measure has come as a very unpleasant surprise to Yugoslavia, especially because it came without any previous warning and because it means that Greek borders are virtually closed for some Yugoslav citizens.

The Yugoslav ambassador said that such measures on the part of Greek authorities are incomprehensible, all the more so since they are being introduced in the year of tourism. Yugoslavia had earlier announced that foreigners from countries with which Yugoslavia has abolished visas will be permitted entry on the basis of i.d. cards alone and that Greeks will be permitted entry with passports but without a visa.

Yugoslavia has for years been urging Greece that visas be abolished but she has not agreed to such a stand.

Greek Foreign Ministry officials promised that the border problem would immediately be taken up.

'Concern' Over Bulgarian, Greek Minorities Stance

LD1401182590 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1154 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Skopje, 13 Jan (TANJUG)—Bulgaria's attempts to prevent the realization of rights of national minorities in this country, as well as the treatment of Yugoslav citizens, especially Macedonians, by Greek border authorities are unacceptable and are giving rise to concern. Both phenomena in the two neighboring counries are not in line with the development of goodneighborly relations. This conclusion was reached at last night's session of the Macedonian Executive Council which examined, among other things, the latest changes in Bulgaria's domestic policy, as well as the incidents at the Yugoslav-Greek border where border authorities kept sending back Yugoslav citizens and invalidating their visas and passports if they were not found to possess foreign currency to the amount of 3,000 drachmas.

In the Macedonian Executive Council's assessment, the development and consolidation of democratic processes in Bulgaria can only be realized if the rights of all its citizens are ensured, including the rights of minorities. From this point of view, it is stated in the Macedonian Executive Council's communique, the Council also finds unacceptable the extremist attempts to revive the ideas which were condemned a long time ago and which can prevent the further democratic development and the realization of the minorities' rights, and, within this framework, the rights of the Macedonian minority in Bulgaria.

Having examined the report on the treatment of our citizens at the Greek-Yugoslav border, the Executive Council noted that the sending back of our citizens must be halted, as this inappropriate act in no way contributes to the development of goodneighborly relations and cooperation. The Executive Council also examined the measures taken by the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs.

'Apology to Citizens of Romania' Proposed

AU0901142390 Belgrade NIN in Serbo-Croatian 31 Dec 89 p 7

[Unattributed report on proposal of the Montenegrin League of Communists Central Committee Presidium: "Apology to the Romanian People"]

[Text] The Central Committee Presidium of the League of Communists [LC] of Montenegro has issued a demand that the Yugoslav state and the organization of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia send a public apology to the citizens of Romania because for a long time and until the very end they maintained relations with the regime that led its own people to material and spiritual disaster and which so bloodily fought with its own people. Here is what Svetozar Marovic, member of the LC Central Committee Presidium of Montenegro, told NIN on that occasion:

"The reason for this initiative lies in the rather open and long-lasting cooperation between the two political regimes. Many of our country's friends received divine treatment; they had their boulevards and streets, but with time they, like Janus, showed their other, tyrannical faces. Here I do not mean only Ceausescu, but also, for instance, Emperor Haile Selassie, Gheorghiou-Dej, and others. These intensive friendships of our leaders show, apart from probable state interests, a rather low level of interest in defending humanist and civilizational achievements which protect the freedom and dignity of every individual. Therefore, apart from conveying a specific message, this initiative includes a certain disagreement with all these political leaders of ours who, because they considered politics to be contacts and communications among heroic personages, used to forget about ordinary people, their intimate sufferings, hopeless situations, and the traumas of their insecurity. Our people have trusted charismatic persons on high for a long time. Exactly that blind confidence makes our entire people responsible, too."

Markovic Receives Romania's Thanks for Support

LD0901145590 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1320 GMT 9 Jan 90

[Text] Belgrade, January 9 (TANJUG)—"I am confident that relations between Romania and Yugoslavia will develop in all domains, in the interest of the Romanian and Yugoslav peoples, peace, trust and cooperation in the Balkans, Europe and the world," says a telegram received by Yugoslav Prime Minister Ante Markovic from Romanian Prime Minister Petre Roman.

Prime Minister Roman, writing on behalf of the Romanian Government and in his own name, thanked the Yugoslav Government for its support to and solidarity with the Romanian people and the patriotic, democratic forces striving for the regeneration of the country.

Chairman of Romania's National Salvation Front Council Ion Iliescu on Monday sent a telegram of similar content to President of Yugoslavia's State Presidency Dr Janez Drnovsek.

LCY Central Committee Presidium Meets

Postpones Plenum Until 19 Jan

LD1501150690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1251 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Belgrade, 15 Jan (TANJUG)—The League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] Central Committee Presidium, at a session held on 14 and 15 January this year and presided over by Milan Pancevski, established the draft of some documents of the 14th extraordinary LCY Congress and considered the organizational and technical preparations of the congress.

At the session, it was announced today, a draft resolution of the 14th extraordinary LCY Congress on Kosovo was prepared which will be submitted for consideration by the LCY Central Committee and thereafter by delegates of the 14th extraordinary LCY Congress. It was also proposed that in the text of the 14th extraordinary LCY Congress declaration the LCY's attitude toward the problems of Kosovo be expressed in a concise way. The adoption of a congress resolution on good neighborly relations and on our national minorities in other countries, which will be put before delegates of the 14th extraordinary LCY Congress for consideration, will also be proposed to the Central Committee.

The Presidium also considered the initiatives of the congresses of the republican League of Communists [LC] and the conference of the provincial LCs sent to the 14th extraordinary LCY Congress and concluded that these initiatives should be sent to the commission for the preparation of documents for the 14th extraordinary congress and that delegates to the 14th extraordinary LCY Congress be acquainted with them.

Also considered at the session were problems of financing the LCY, as well as the basic guidelines for the reorganization of the specialist department of the LCY Central Committee and its rationalization, something which also includes reducing the number of employees in it.

The Presidium decided that the 30th Session of the LCY Central Committee, scheduled for 17 January, be postponed and held on 19 January this year.

Endorses Draft Kosovo Resolution

LD1501212790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1655 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Belgrade, 15 Jan (TANJUG)—The Presidium of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] Central Committee has endorsed the draft of a resolution on Kosovo to be adopted at the extraordinary 14th LCY Congress. The draft will be submitted to the LCY Central Committee for consideration and later to delegates at the extraordinary 14th LCY Congress. It has been suggested that the resolution's text should concisely express the LCY's attitude toward problems affecting Kosovo. The following is the full text of the draft resolution on Kosovo to be adopted at the extraordinary 14th LCY Congress:

The extraordinary 14th LCY Congress maintains that the LCY's policy, as formulated at the ninth session of the LCY Central Committee, clearly defines the substance of the problems affecting Kosovo and a program of measures designed to resolve them. Conclusions reached at the ninth session marked a watershed in the attitude toward Kosovo's problems. In view of this and of existing differences and vacillations, it is necessary to secure continuity, unity, determination, and responsibility in the consistent implementation of the above policy and of the Yugoslav program concerning Kosovo.

In the light of this and the need for a critical assessment of the situation and of the necessity to step up and coordinate activities in resolving the complex problems of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo, the extraordinary 14th congress is adopting this resolution on Kosovo.

The Battle for Kosovo is a Battle for Yugoslavia

1. For a long time now Albanian nationalists and separatists have been active in Kosovo in an organized way and with the aim of creating an ethnically pure Kosovo, a "Republic of Kosovo," in other words, a state of Albanians living in Yugoslavia Their ultimate goal is to separate Kosovo from the Socialist Republic of Serbia and, by implication, from the SFRY. They are exerting strong and brutal pressures on Serbs, Montenegrins, Turks, Croats, Romanies, and Muslims to emigrate from Kosovo. By their action they are threatening Yugoslavia's territorial integrity and stability. The battle for Kosovo is therefore a battle for Yugoslavia.

The League of Communists [LC] can and must win the battle for Kosovo and Yugoslavia's stability solely through the consistent implementation of a single policy on Kosovo and firm backing from the ranks of citizens of Albanian nationality and members of all other nations and nationalities. The situation in Kosovo can be normalized and improved for a truly joint life in peace and harmony with full security, equality, and comprehensive solidarity of all nations and nationalities.

In line with this policy, which should be permanantly improved in accordance with the demands of modern development, all other socialist forces in Yugoslavia must make maximum efforts. This is simultaneously the best support and concrete help for the leadership, Communists, and all progressive forces in Kosovo.

Communists and all socialist and democratic forces in Kosovo and Serbia have the primary obligation and responsibility in this sense; but, at the same time, this is a common concern and obligation of the entire LCY and all progressive forces, organizations, and bodies in our country.

Common Life and Work Based on Equality, Tolerance, and Solidarity

2. A life lived in mutual trust and tolerance is necessary for Kosovo and is the objective of the joint LC activity and all progressive forces in Kosovo and the entire country. No nation or nationality can resolve grave economic, social, political, and other problems in Kosovo by themselves and isolated from the others. They can and must do this only in association with others and all together. This is the key prerequisite for overcoming the current crisis in interethnic relations, halting the activity of Greater Albanian nationalism and separatism, as well as any form of Serbian, Montenegrin, or other nationalisms, which use Kosovo's problems for their own aims. Implementing the policy of national equality, brotherhood, and unity, would enable political and overall progress and development in Kosovo, and, thereby, in Serbia and Yugoslavia.

Today brotherhood and unity in Kosovo are the basic needs for everyone, needs which can be fulfilled only by concrete results: the return of all who left Kosovo; peaceful dreams for all children in Kosovo; freedom and security of life and property for all Albanians, Serbs, Montenegrins, Turks, and members of all other nations and nationalities; equality for all Kosovo's inhabitants in fulfilling their rights and needs—proceeding from the right to work to the right to culture—as well as everything else necessary for a dignified human life and mutual trust and solidarity in a multinational environment.

We shall defend and protect Kosovo from, above all, Albanian nationalism, which is our most prominent and main opponent, but also from any nationalism and chauvinism, through a joint political will and Yugoslav patriotic awareness of all citizens, through citizens' firm resoluteness and persistent, constant efforts for brotherhood, unity, and togetherness, for mutual trust and human solidarity, and for a richer and more free life for everyone living and working in Kosovo. Kosovo must become peaceful and free from separatist and any other nationalist passions and divisions and open to and capable of development and progress.

To Prevent Pressures To Leave Kosovo

3. The most tragic, and socially and historically the most difficult, problem in Kosovo is the emigration of Serbs and Montenegrins under duress and the province's deeply disturbed interethnic relations. No patriot or progressive individual in Yugoslavia can reconcile himself to achieving the objectives of the Albanian separatistic nationalism regarding an ethnically pure Kosovo.

The main and most important indicators of how successful the struggle against Albanian separatism and nationalism is, and to what extent the situation in the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo has been normalized, are a peaceful and secure life for everyone in Kosovo, an end to the emigration under duress of Serbs and Montenegrins, and a situation conducive to the return of those who have already emigrated and to the arrival of anyone who wants to live and work in Kosovo and contribute to its development. To this end it is necessary, in addition to a prompt and continuing struggle against Albanian nationalists and separatists, to heighten concrete responsibility throughout the country for a comprehensive implementation of the measures and main goals contained in the Yugoslav program for Kosovo. The LCY will insist that a concrete plan of measures and activities be drawn up, as a part of the Yugoslav program for Kosovo, to facilitate the return of those Serbs and Montenegrins who emigrated under duress and for the arrival of anyone who wishes to live and work in Kosovo, primarily young, educated, and professional people.

Kosovo's Integration in the Processes of a Social Reform

4. To stabilize the situation in Kosovo is a key prerequisite for success in implementing social reform as a unique strategy to resolve the crisis. Stabilization of the situation in Kosovo and any prospect for the province's development are possible providing that Kosovo, with all its potential and specific features, is integrated in the country's processes of economic and social reform with full support and help from the entire Yugoslav community. Radical social changes and the development of democratic relations are the most successful instrument for crushing and destroying the power of bureaucratic-nationalist collusions, for introducing genuine social control, for heightening political and economic responsibility, and for paving the way for a new and stable phase in our social and economic development.

Through joint efforts and determination and by proceeding from a united stance, we shall help the working people and citizens of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo to lead a better and richer life. This is also in the interests of all our working people, citizens, nations, and nationalities. There is a need for a higher level of integration of Kosovo in the Socialist Republic of Serbia and in Yugoslavia. Conditions for this have already been created by the constitutional changes. On the other hand, there is also a need for a considerably greater presence of all Yugoslav regions in Kosovo in the political, economic, social, cultural, scientific, and educational sphere. Through concerted action and visible results we shall heighten the awareness of the people of Kosovo to the fact that the SFRY is their common homeland.

For a Strategy of Accelerated Economic Development and Creating New Jobs by Relying on One's Own Resources

5. Kosovo's economic and development problems can be resolved successfully only through resolute implementation of radical social and economic reform. Kosovo's economic structure should be changed and improved by speedier development of manufacturing capacities, modernization, and restructuring, by a more thorough and efficient use of the exisiting major and other capacities and by social means in general. Significant opportunities exist in thorough development of small-scale enterprises with all forms of ownership, through involving citizens' resources and foreign captial for production purposes and with the maximum engagement of a young and educated work force and a speedier resolution of the unemployment problem. It is also necessary to use great natural resources and potentials more rationally and efficiently in order to achieve an efficient development in line with the market basis.

Development and economic policy should be based on a realistic, dynamic, market, and concrete program of development, by relying on one's own resources and the economic integration of the economy of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo with the economy of the Socialist Republic of Serbia and Yugoslavia as a whole on the basis of joint investment, joint funds, use of one's own cadres and know-how, as well as cadres and know-how from the whole country engaged in joint programs and development projects which would enable positive economic results and a productive work force.

For a successful, dynamic, and the speediest development of Kosovo, as the most undeveloped part of Yugoslavia, the help and solidarity of the whole Yugoslav community based on the efficient use of resources, on the transformation of the fund for the undeveloped, and on market orientation and economic interests, is necessary. For that objective, it is necessary to proceed with drafting a comprehensive development program for the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo.

The reform orientation will enable comprehensive development and creativity in all forms of ownership, the development of profit-making enterprises, small and medium-scale enterprises, private initiative, economic integration, the introduction of new technologies in the production processes, and a higher employment rate, especially among the young and qualified cadres. It is necessary to observe the full economic responsibility of social and economic subjects in order to implement the course of reform and the new development policy and strategy.

A Law-Governed State as a Guarantee of Human Rights and Freedoms

6. Every citizen in Kosovo must be guaranteed respect for and protection of his human rights and freedoms. Full conditions must therefore be created in the province for the functioning of the rule of law as a guarantee for equality and of legal protection and safety for property and individuals. Democratic social control, constitutionality and legality, openness in work, as well as responsibility, must be concrete and immediate as this is the only way to restore people's confidence in the organs of authority and to divest bureaucratic-nationalist and separatist forces of their power in the political, cultural, and economic spheres.

The introduction of the rule of law must, in an efficient way, remove, once and for all, irregularities, unlawfulness, and injustices committed against Serbs and Montenegrins and all other citizens of Kosovo over the preceding period. Equality of citizens before the law, regardless of their nationality, is in the interest of all our nations and nationalities in Kosovo, in the Socialist Republic of Serbia, and in the whole country.

Family Planning, Emancipation of Woman, and a Balanced Demographic Development as Conditions for a Successful Economic Development

7. Demographic explosion in Kosovo is a result of both poverty and under development on one hand, and of the absence of a family planning policy on the other. Kosovo's demographic development problems and those of the family planning policy should be resolved primarily by promoting the achievements of economic, cultural, and civilizational development, by humanizing life and work, and by the emancipation of women.

The resolution of a major problem of demographic explosion in Kosovo demands, above all, economic measures which will stimulate the policy of reducing the birth-rate, so that demographic growth will be in proportion to the existing material and other resources, which is of significant importance for achieving not just accelerated, but also general economic development of Kosovo and for resolving the major problems of unemployment. This problem must be resolved by creating conditions for the health and cultural education of the population, especially of young people.

Permeation and Affirmation of National Culture—Presupposition for Development of Culture in Kosovo

8. National equality and diversity of cultural creativity in Kosovo are the expression and a significant factor of a joint life for the nations and nationalities living there. The cultural heritage of Kosovo and the achievements of contemporary Kosovo authors and artists, as an inalienable part of the national identity of the nations and nationalities to which they belong, are a common resource available to all. The free development and affirmation of national cultures, which start and exist under conditions of equality and mutual permeation, are essential presuppositions of Kosovo's cultural and overall development. Therefore, any enclosure of cultures only within national boundaries and attempts to serve narrow horizons of nationalistic programs contradict the meaning of culture, because they objectively serve the purpose of ethnic intolerance and exacerbation of interethnic relations, instead of a comprehensive development of culture, and instead of contributing to a joint life and understanding. The word culture is a message of freedom which represents a bridge of mutual respect and interethnic trust.

The Kosovo cultural arena must be open to all of Yugoslavia, as it will at the same time articulate and affirm its own values and achievements in the Yugoslav arena.

Battle for the Young, the Battle for Kosovo Prospects

9. Through more organized ideological and educational work with Kosovo's the young people, we must resolutely overcome the burdens of ethnic separation dating from the near and distant past, because on these bases and divisions humane socialist self-managing society cannot be built and prosperity and a safe future cannot be ensured. Young Albanians in Kosovo, who were made to hold false views through indoctrination, should be liberated from the pressures of historical burdens, from which nationalistic thinking grew for a long time. Therefore, an objective historical assessment of all past controversies should be given, and the theses and exponents of indoctrinations should be clearly identified and unmasked. This, like a necessary degree of unity and solidarity in the educational system in the Socialist Republic of Serbia, is the precondition for the change in thinking of and winning over all young Albanians on the side of unity and solidarity in Kosovo. This is the task on which further prospects for Kosovo depend, and regarding which resolute efforts should be made, so that the Kosovo's young people are channeled toward creativity, civilizational values, and achievements. There is no other choice than to educate and involve the young people in achieving prospects of freedom, democracy, Yugoslav socialist patriotism, and joint life in Kosovo, in the Socialist Republic of Serbia, and in Yugoslavia.

The LC advocates an amnesty for the young people who were victims of indoctrination of Albanian separatist nationalism except, of course, terrorists and members of illegal groups.

Presenting the Truth About Kosovo to the World

10. The prolonged crisis in Kosovo and its impact on the situation in Yugoslavia is not in the interests of democratic forces in either Europe or the world. The world democratic public condemns the violation of human rights and freedoms in whatever form. In addition to well-intentioned reactions and concern, there are also attempts among some circles abroad to internationalize the problem of Kosovo and to use it as a form of political pressure against Yugoslavia. Albania has been the

country which has displayed particular persistency and even direct political-subversive activity in this, thus revealing its territorial claims against Yugoslavia.

In addition to comprehensive efforts to stabilize the situation in Kosovo, in the period ahead Yugoslavia must intensify its activity to promote, in an objective and well-argued manner, the truth about Kosovo and the results of its policy of full equality for all its nations and nationalities, as well as our community's achievements in developing interethnic relations and promoting human rights and freedoms, especially regarding the position and rights of the Albanian nationality in Kosovo and in the SFRY.

The 14th extraordinary congress wants the LCY Central Committee after the congress to comprehensively analyze and review the implementation so far of the conclusions of the Ninth LCY Central Committee Session, and with this analysis, together with the congress documents and the standpoints expressed in this resolution, to draw up a list of the LCY's tasks in mobilizing Communists and all the country's social forces into a united and efficient movement to overcome the difficult socioeconomic and political situation in Kosovo and to create stability and development prospects for the province as an inseparable part of the Socialist Republic of Serbia and of the SFRY.

27 Candidates for LCY CC Presidium

LD0901190990 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1132 GMT 9 Jan 90

[Text] Belgrade, 9 Jan (TANJUG)—A total of 27 candidates are competing on an equal footing for the membership in the Presidium of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] Central Committee which, in the future, will consist of 15 instead of 23 members, following a decision that the presidents of the party organizations in the republics and provinces, as well as in the Yugoslav People's Army [YPA] will no longer be ex-officio members of the LCY Central Committee Presidium. From the list of 27 candidates, the newly elected LCY Central Committee, at its first constitutive session during the congress, will elect its executive-political organ by secret ballot and in line with the principle that the Presidium must consist of two representatives from each of the republican League of Communists [LC] organizations, one from each of the provincial LC organizations, and one from the LCY organization in the YPA.

The candidate or candidates for the office of president of the LCY Central Committee are yet to be announced.

The LC organizations in the republics, the provinces, and in the YPA have nominated more candidates for "their" vacancies in the Presidium than will be elected, in fact.

The following are the candidates:

—From the Bosnia-Hercegovina LC: Alija Behmen, Dzevad Tasic, Filip Vukovic;
—From the Montenegro LC: Momcilo Bajovic, Danilo Vuksanovic, Damjan Seckovic;
—From the Croatian LC: Luka Cupkovic, Dusko Dragun, Mladen Zuvela;
—From the Macedonian LC: Blagoj Handziski, Milan Pancevski, Ljubomir Varoslija;
—From the Slovenian LC: Zvone Dragan, Vlado Klemencic, Stefan Korosec, Bozidar Kovac, Miran Potrc, Valentina Tomlje;
—From the Serbian LC: Slobodan Jovanovic, Rados Smiljkovic, Petar Skundric;
—From the Kosovo LC: Husamedin Azemi, Jusuf Karakusi;
—From the Vojvodina LC: Sinisa Batalo, Predrag Jereminov;
—From the LCY organization in the YPA: Dimitrije Baucal, Milan Cusic.

The average age of the candidates for the LCY Central Committee Presidium is 49.9 years. Milan Cusic (62) is the oldest and Predrag Jereminov (36) is the youngest candidate.

The average duration of the candidates' membership in the party is 28.5 years. Milan Causic, with 46 years, is the longest-serving member of the LCY and Momcilo Bajovic, with 9 years, is the shortest-serving. Only Danilo Vuksanovic and Damjan Seckovic have never before occupied a political post, while the others have held or still are holding political jobs.

Out of the 27 candidates, 26 have a university education. One graduated from the Higher School for the Organization of Work. Six have doctorates and four have masters degrees. The majority (eight) have graduated from the faculties of philosophy, five have a law degree, four have degrees in economics, three have degrees from the faculties of political sciences, two from higher political schools, two from faculties of technology and metallurgy, one from the faculty of engineering, and one has a degree in electro-engineering.

The national structure of the candidates is as follows: There are seven Serbs, six Slovenes, four Yugoslavs, three Montenegrins, three Macedonians, two Croats, and two Albanians. It must not be forgotten that the LC organizations put forward different numbers of candidates and that this had an effect on their national structure. Out of 27 candidates, 26 are men and there is only 1 woman.

Further Reportage on 29th LCY Plenum

AU2712172989 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 27 Dec 89

[Text] The 29th session of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] ended half an hour ago. It was agreed that the Extraordinary 14th LCY Congress would be held between 20 and 22 January next year. The plenum did not consider the 13th, 14th, and 15th points on the agenda. They were postponed until the next session of the LCY Central Committee.

During its work this afternoon, the LCY Central Committee adopted without discussion the congress document on reform of the political system. Members of the Central Committee then endorsed the proposed decision on the formulation of a LCY new statute and, with four votes against, the post of president of the LCY Central Committee was introduced. The president's term of office will last 2 years.

The proposed (?rules of work procedure) that will be presented to the delegates at the Extraordinary 14th LCY Congress were also endorsed.

In the debate on cadre preparations for the election of candidates for the LCY's organs, the criticism could be heard that, out of 153 delegates who the congress will elect to the Central Committee, only 19 are employed in direct production, and Montenegro, Croatia, and Slovenia have not nominated one single worker.

Zagreb Train Engineers Strike Over Pay

LD1601091990 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0753 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Summary] Zagreb, 16 Jan (TANJUG)—Railroad engineers of the Zagreb railway transport organization went on strike at 0700 this morning. All trains in Croatia scheduled for departure after 0700 will remain in station. Negotiations, which went on all day yesterday, failed to resolve the question of railroad engineers' pay.

Teachers Join Striking Skopje Mill Workers

LD1601091190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2201 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Skopje, Jan 15 (TANJUG)—About two thousand striking workers of the iron and steel works in Skopje, capital of the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, assembled today in front of the republican parliament and called for the resignation of the entire republican government.

The strike, which was joined this evening by teachers throughout the republic, was motivated by a report according to which the employees of the republican administrative organs had, notwithstanding a pay freeze recently introduced by the federal government, hiked their latest salaries by a 74.6 percent.

The pay freeze, one of the key elements of the anti-inflation programme introduced recently by the government of Prime Minister Ante Markovic, allows wages to be raised by a maximum of 20 percent. The striking steel mill workers say they received pay rises of only 16 percent this month.

Apart from demanding the resignation of the republican leadership, the striking workers are also asking for a reduction in the personal income tax allocation for the financing of administrative organs. The strikers are threatening to make a lengthy production stoppage in case they are not enlightened on the source of the funds used to boost the salaries of the administrative organs and the reason why Prime Minister Ante Markovic was not informed about the pay increase during his recent visit to Skopje.

Negotiations between the strikers' committee and representatives of the mill's management and the republican authorities ended this evening without any results, so that the gathering before the republican parliament could well grow into a much greater manifestation of discontent.